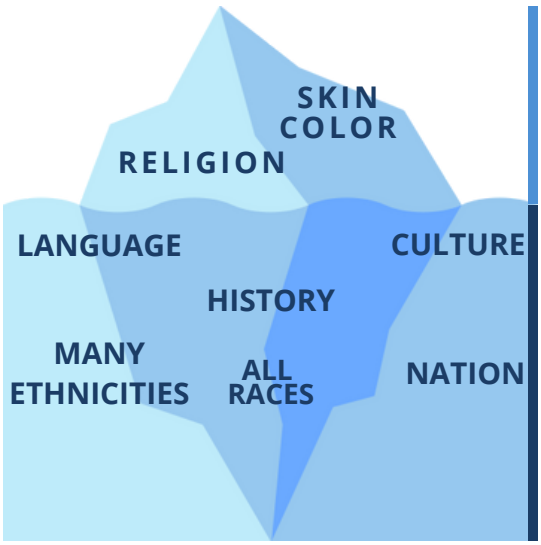


EXPLAINING
JEWISH IDENTITY & ANTISEMITISM

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UNDERSTANDING JEWISH IDENTITY & ANTISEMITISM

01 WHO ARE THE JEWISH PEOPLE?



what people **assume**

Most people **think of** Jews as a **white, religious community.**

who we **are**

- **Jews identify as a people or nation,** now and long before there was a religion called Judaism.
- Many Jews do not consider themselves to be religious.
- Jewish people are **multi-racial and multi-ethnic,** with diaspora communities **all over the world.**

02 WHY THIS PERCEPTION?

Erasure of a complex identity

The Jewish diaspora has been shaped by a history of expulsions and persecution, leading to the dispersion of Jewish communities across nations worldwide. Despite the prevailing social constructs around race and identity, Jews are often and primarily categorized as a religious group, erasing the complexity of our identity.

Safety through assimilation

In the U.S., many Jewish immigrants actively sought safety through assimilation into whiteness (changing names, adapting cultural practices, etc.). Images of Jews in media & popular culture are typically centered around white-eligible Jews. This centering of one Jewish narrative erases the complexity, beauty, and diversity of our global peoplehood.

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UNDERSTANDING JEWISH IDENTITY & ANTISEMITISM

03 WHAT IS CONTEMPORARY ANTISEMITISM?

MOST THINK ANTISEMITISM IS ABOUT **RELIGION**





BUT ANTISEMITISM IS ABOUT **PEOPLE**

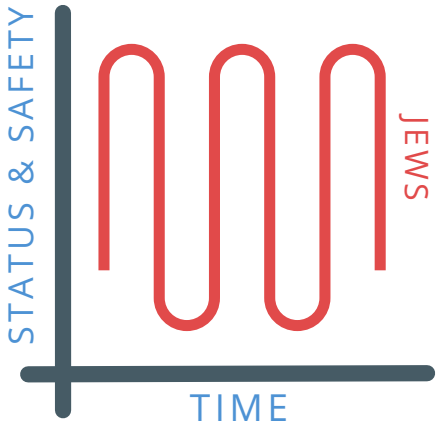
Jews are typically attacked for **who we are**, not how we pray.

CONTEMPORARY ANTISEMITISM IS ANTI-JEW, NOT ANTI-JUDAISM

04 HOW DOES ANTISEMITISM WORK?

JEWISH SAFETY CAN CHANGE RAPIDLY

- **Antisemitism functions differently than other systemic bigotries**, which are typically fixed in a given society.
- There are many examples of Jews living safely and thriving in a society, only for this status to shift rapidly, leading to systemic violence and even expulsions.
- **Throughout Jewish history, skin color & status have not guaranteed safety in any society.**



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