

EXAMPLES OF CONTEMPORARY ANTISEMITISM

Example #1

On February 14, 2015, a man with an assault rifle opened fire during a Freedom of Expression event at the Krudttonden Cultural Center in Copenhagen, Denmark. Film director Finn Nordgaard was murdered and three police officers were wounded. The perpetrator fled the scene, resulting in a national manhunt. Later that night, the shooter returned to the Great Synagogue of Copenhagen, down the street where a young girl named Hannah Bentow was having her Bat Mitzvah. The man opened fire on the synagogue. Two Danish Security and Intelligence Service officers were injured and Dan Uzan, volunteer security guard and friend of the community, was killed.

Example #2

The 2014 war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza spawned international protest against the Jewish state in Europe and North America. Two rallies in downtown Chicago in July witnessed protesters holding signs with the words “Israel You Will Pay, Your Annihilation is On Its Way”¹ and placards with Holocaust and antisemitic imagery. Protesters also demonized all supporters of Israel by distributing pamphlets declaring, “Zionism is the Enemy of Humanity.”

A flyer distributed at the rally depicted a crude caricature of a larger-than-life, hook-nosed figure controlling the world from behind the scenes with the German caption, “The Jew: The inciter of war, the prolonger of war,”² a reference to the Hans Schweitzer poster from 1943 or 1944—the height of the Holocaust.

Comparisons between Nazism and Israel were prevalent at both rallies. There was a display of an Israeli flag with blood-stained children’s handprints, calling the Israelis ‘Nazis’ and equating the Star of David with the swastika.



About Photos: Photos of protesters and flyer distributed during rally, posted on Twitter by Jonathan Hoenig

Example #3

On April 13, 2014, a lone gunman named Frazier Glenn Miller, Jr., went to the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City and Village Shalom, a Jewish retirement community, both located in Overland Park, Kansas and shot and killed three people. The gunman, who was 73-years old at the time, was from Aurora, Missouri.

Miller is a Neo-Nazi and former leader of the defunct North Carolina-based White Patriot Party, formerly known as the Carolina Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

Miller was tried and convicted of murder, and sentenced to death. As Johnson County District Judge Thomas Kelly Ryan imposed the sentence he stated, “Your attempt to bring hate to this community, to bring terror to this community, has failed. You have failed, Mr. Miller.”

Upon Ryan’s announcement, Miller yelled “Heil Hitler” and was removed from the courtroom. Miller said he shot his victims because he wanted to kill Jewish people before he dies.

The victims were a 14-year-old boy, Reat Griffin Underwood, and his 69-year-old grandfather, physician, Dr. William Lewis Corporon, and Terri LaManno, a 53-year-old woman, who was an occupational therapist in Kansas City. All three victims were Christians.