

TISHA B'AV RESOURCE

The Origins of Hate *Activities and Discussions around the roots of hatred*

AUTHOR(S):	Stacy Rigler and Avi Orlow
TOPIC (S)	Tisha B'Av, Antisemitism, Hate
SUMMARY	This program helps teens take a step back and look at where hate might come from, what our Jewish texts say about hate, and how we can respond to hateful speech understanding its roots/motivations.
GOALS:	To foster a discussion around the roots of hatred To offer a text study around Jewish sources of hatred To encourage reflection on action around antisemitic speech
AUDIENCE:	Ages 12-15
TIMING:	45 minutes
APPENDICES:	ADL Pyramid of Hate ; Source sheet on communal hate
MATERIALS NEEDED:	Large post it/posters with the names of the Pyramid of Hate categories Smaller post its/markers Text Sheet
SET-UP DETAILS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write the names of the Pyramid of Hate categories on large post its. 2. Have markers/smaller post its available 3. Have source sheets available 4. paper/pencil

SESSION TIMELINE

- 00:00-00:02: Introduction, Group Norms
- 00:02-00:05 What is Hate?
- 00:05-00:15 Exploring the Pyramid of Hate
- 00:15-00:25 Text study
- 00:25-00:35 Pyramid of Hate
- 00:35-00:43 From Study to Action
- 00:43-00:45 Wrap Up

SESSION OUTLINE:

00:00-00:02 Introduction, Group Norms

Session leader introduces session topic and sets group norms for talking about hatred and antisemitism (examples.. explain rather than assume knowledge of terms, speak using “I” language, warn prior to sharing something scary or potentially upsetting...)

00:02-00:05 What is Hate?

Find a partner and try to come up with a definition of hate.

Go to one of three corners of the room based on your definition - does your definition describe hate as..

(1) an emotion - a natural instinctive state of mind

(2) a motive or reason for doing something

(3) or an emotional attitude or syndrome, patterned form of behavior

Session leader might share: How does hate develop? This is our big question for the day. Hate is assumed to develop when others mistreat or humiliate someone or when someone's deliberate action have become an obstruction to someone's goals.

But scholars's aren't sure if hate is an emotion, a motive, or a patterned form of behavior because hate is often not a reaction to a specific event and not limited to a short amount of time. Anger is often shorter, and individual. Hate is long lasting and often takes the form of groups.

00:05-00:15 Exploring the Pyramid of Hate

Session leader has the 5 elements of pyramid of hate (genocide, bias-motivated violence, systemic discrimination, acts of bias, biased attitudes) on the wall. Session leader might share: On the wall are elements of the Anti-Defamation League's Pyramid of Hate. Each one of these is connected to hate in some way. Using either n post-its or markers - add to each of the elements:

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adjectives come to mind when you see these words?

- What reactions do you feel?
- What have you witnessed personally, on social media, in real life?
- What are examples that fall into these categories?

After 7 minutes, the session leader might either encourage participants to read what others wrote or read aloud to highlight participants' connection with each of the levels.

00:15-00:25 Text study

Divide into smaller groups

Session leader:

1. Read the texts on [this source sheet](#): Text 1: Explain what the point of the story is from Rebbi. What does Rebbi suggest? What assumption was Rebbi worried that Rabbi Yose bar Yehuda and Elisah ben Abuya were making?
2. Text 2: What does Bartenura add? How was his focus different than the focus of Rebbi?
3. Text 3: How would you describe what Rabbi Yose bar Yehuda was thinking about Elisah ben Abuya's original statement? Did he agree/disagree, was he listening, thinking, or restating?
4. When someone speaks do you usually listen, think about it, question it, add to it?
5. How does your process differ if you are friends, relatives, of the same group, part of different groups, not friends, or enemies?
6. What do you think Deborah Lipstadt means?

00:25-00:35 Pyramid of Hate

1. Draw the 5 terms that you see on the wall in relation to one another
2. How clear are you or how strongly do you feel that some of these lead to others?
3. Is there a difference between online speech and in person speech for any of these categories?
- 4.

00:35-00:43 From Study to Action

Ways to manage hate speech (taken from commonsensemedia.org)

If we believe that bias speech or hateful speech leads to hateful actions, what can we do to manage hate speech? Share what you have done:

Choices might include:

- Report it.. how? to whom?
- Block it: what are the opportunities and challenges?
- Don't share it: why might this be important?
- Call it out: how can you have the courage to do this?
- Fight it: what can you ask/encourage to foster empathy or curiosity?
- Research it: how can you figure out what is true?

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00:43-00:45 Wrap Up:

Tisha B'Av and the three weeks leading up to this observance are a time for our community to reflect on the power of hatred, we ask ourselves at this time: What is hate really? Where does it come from? and what can we do to fight it?

- Share with your neighbor now.. what do you think hate is, and share if your definition has changed in the past 45 minutes?
- Share with another neighbor - what did our texts encourage us to do to fight hate?
- Share with a third neighbor - what might we learn from our teachers to do, in our efforts to combat hatred in our own communities?
- Share with the group: what questions are we left with?