



# **SIGNS OF THE TIMES**

**News Articles for Episode 238**

# [Report: More than 350 anti-Semitic incidents occurred on US college campuses last school year \(israel365news.com\)](#)

#bibleprophecy, #college, #anti-semitism

Oct 14, 2022

A total of 359 anti-Semitic incidents took place on U.S. college campuses during the 2021-22 academic year, according to a [report](#) released by the Anti-Defamation League on Wednesday.

The ADL's Campus Report documented instances of accusations or "genocide" and "ethnic genocide" levied against Israel as well as the "ostracizing of Jewish students from campus organizations because of their assumed support for Israel or Zionism."

Among the incidents, there were 165 protests/actions, 143 anti-Israel events, 20 BDS resolutions and referendums, 11 incidents of vandalism, nine instances of targeted verbal and/or written harassment and one physical assault.

In response to the large number of incidents, the ADL [announced](#) that it would be "broadening its educational and programmatic investment on campus, including the launch today of an expanded online resource to support students and combat anti-Semitism on campus."

According to the ADL, the report exhibits a snapshot of a growing campus radicalism that places opposition to Israel and Zionism as "core elements of collegiate life or as a requirement for full acceptance in the campus community."

The report provided information about the sources of funding for the student clubs responsible for many of the incidents, including Students for Justice in Palestine and Jewish Voice for Peace. While most funds come from student activity fees, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund funds JVP and Westchester Peace Action Coalition sponsors SJP.

There were three major themes and events characterizing campus anti-Semitism last year, according to the report—"Demeaning and ostracizing Zionists and Zionism, including expelling and excluding students from campus groups for expressing any affinity with Zionism or Israel; voicing support for anti-Israel terror and violence; and invoking classic antisemitic tropes and conspiracies in lectures and social media posts," the ADL stated.

# [UN Commission: Israeli ‘occupation’ is illegal - JNS.org](#)

#bibleprophecy, #israel, #anti-semitism, #un

Oct 22, 2022

The report ignores the “actions of the dozens of terrorist entities seeking the destruction of Israel,” the Conference of Presidents notes.

(October 22, 2022 / JNS) The U.N. Human Rights Council’s open-ended Commission of Inquiry (COI) into Israel released its first report to the General Assembly on Thursday, deeming the Israeli presence in Judea and Samaria illegal under international law.

The report found what it called the “occupation” to be illegal “due to its permanence and the Israeli Government’s de-facto annexation policies,” according to a [statement](#) released along with the document.

“Recent statements by the Secretary-General and numerous member States have clearly indicated that any attempt at unilateral annexation of a State’s territory by another State is a violation of international law and is null and void; 143 member States including Israel last week voted in favor of a General Assembly resolution reaffirming this,” stated Navi Pillay, chair of the commission.

According to the U.N., the COI’s review was based on “interviews with experts and stakeholders, and submissions received following a call for submissions.”

“By ignoring international law in establishing or facilitating the establishment of settlements, and directly or indirectly transferring Israeli civilians into these settlements, successive Israel governments have set facts on the ground to ensure permanent Israeli control in the West Bank,” Pillay continued.

Anne Bayefsky, director of the Touro Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust and president of Human Rights Voices, told *JNS* that the commission was set up to find Israel guilty.

“It was staffed by individuals that already said Israel was guilty before they got the job and then then, surprise, they find Israel guilty,” she said.

Bayefsky called it a deliberate attempt to demonize and destroy the Jewish state.

“That’s what it intended to do. That’s what the Human Rights Council members who voted for it intended it to be. That’s why they picked those individuals to launch their campaign, and now, they’ve closed the circle,” she said. “And the only question that remains is whether any serious person takes this modern form of anti-Semitism seriously and will the United States adopt the [COI Elimination Act](#) to ensure that American taxpayers are no longer footing the bill—because right now, until that passes,

we're still picking up the tab for this U.N. assault on the State of Israel and the Jewish people.”

Jewish organizations involved in advocating at the U.N. unanimously condemned the report.

The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations released a joint statement from chair Dianne Lob and CEO William Daroff, calling out the commission for its double standard.

“The United Nations Human Rights Council and its Commission of Inquiry on Israel are a complete and utter farce,” Lob and Daroff said. “The 28-page report references Israel 277 times and not once names or even acknowledges the actions of Hamas, Islamic Jihad or the dozens of terrorist entities and terrorist proxy groups seeking the explicit destruction of Israel and death of the Jewish people. Further, it does not mention that these organizations fire rockets and deliberately target innocent civilians.”

By not recognizing Israel's right to defend itself, the commission, according to Lob and Daroff, has given its seal of approval to the terrorist organizations committing violent attacks on Israeli targets and for the Palestinian Authority to continue its malign actions, funding programs to kill Jews such as its “pay-for-slay” program.”

The Conference and other organizations pointed to the COI commissioners' history of making anti-Semitic statements, including a [recent](#) interview where commissioner Miloon Kothari questioned Israel's legitimacy during an interview and expressed the belief that Jews control the media.

“Based on the outrageous and anti-Semitic comments made by some of the members of the Commission of Inquiry over the summer, WJC [the World Jewish Congress] had little hope that their first report to the UN General Assembly would be a balanced one and one that would contribute to bringing Israelis and Palestinians closer together. Unfortunately, we were not wrong,” WJC wrote in a statement.

American Jewish Congress CEO Ted Deutch also focused on the report's lack of condemnation of terrorist organizations and called for the commission to be disbanded. He called the report biased and urged countries and organizations worldwide to reject it.

“There's no mention of Hamas. There's no mention of terrorism. There's no mention of the thousands of rockets that rained down on Israel with the sole intention of killing as many civilians as possible, and there's a failure to acknowledge that every country, including Israel, has a right to defend itself,” said Deutch in a statement. “The members of this commission were biased. They expressed that bias right from the start. This commission is malicious. It is illegitimate. It should be disbanded.”

B'nai B'rith International recalled that another member of the COI once said that Jews made complaints of anti-Semitism “like rice at a wedding.”

B'nai B'rith President Seth Riklin and CEO Daniel Mariaschin wrote in a statement that the COI demanded that only Israel, not the Palestinians or others, comply with international law, as evident by the commission's referral of Israel to the International Criminal Court.

“If it weren't clear enough from the unprecedented scope of the ‘commission,’ from the fact that it has almost entirely focused its condemnation on Israel after the Human Rights Council condemned Israel in advance, and from the appointment only of commissioners with public, preexisting views against Israel, the two first reports of this body confirm a prejudice that is as extreme as it is blatant,” Riklin and Mariaschin wrote. “The commission members, operating within a system that condemns Israel more than all other countries combined, patently do not see a need even to pretend to conduct their ‘inquiry’ objectively.”

Mariaschin and Riklin expressed outrage that the report spoke extensively about Israel violating the property rights of the Palestinians, claiming that Israel acquires land by force—land which it calls an “integral part to the Palestinian identity”—and that Israel is meting out collective punishment against the Palestinians. The allegations were based on interviews with six Palestinian sources. But the commission did not interview or mention any Israelis who have been harmed by myriad attacks by Hamas and Palestinian terrorists.

Finally, the report concludes that it is the Israelis who are standing in the way of the realization of a two-state solution, rather than the intransigence of Hamas and Fatah leaders.

“The commission report fails to note that Israel had previously completely withdrawn all civilian residents and military personnel from the Gaza Strip, the Egyptian Sinai and southern Lebanon; that Israel had previously offered Palestinians a state on nearly all the territory of the West Bank and Gaza; and that prior Jewish inhabitants had been forcibly removed from eastern Jerusalem and the West Bank beginning during the regional war of 1948,” Riklin and Mariaschin said.

# [Australia floods: 12-meter floods to inundate thousands of properties, emergency services warn | CNN](#)

#bibleprophecy, #floods, #australia

Oct 16, 2022

[Australian](#) Prime Minister Anthony Albanese toured flooded areas of the southeastern state of Victoria Sunday – as emergency services warned waters up to 12 meters were expected to inundate thousands of properties.

Albanese said the scenes were “devastating” on his visit to the town of Bendigo and on a helicopter ride over the town of Rochester, where a 71-year-old man was [found dead in a flooded backyard](#) Saturday.

“By the end of today over 100 ADF [Australian Defence Force] personnel will be on the ground in Victoria,” Albanese told reporters.

ADF personnel are assisting in the flood rescue, recovery and efforts to protect against the water levels expected to rise in the coming days.

Speaking alongside Albanese, Victoria state Premier Daniel Andrews said 355 roads remain closed in Victoria due to flooding and “around 6,000” properties around the town of Mooroopna remain without power.

“There is a really significant challenge there – just the amount of water and the levels it’s reaching,” Andrews said.

Emergency warnings are in effect in and around the Shepparton area, including a “too late to leave” warning for residents.

Floodwaters in that area are expected to rise to 12.2 meters, which would flood more than 7,000 properties, the Victoria State Emergency Service’s Tim Wiebusch said on Sunday.

The death on Saturday of the 71-year-old brought the number of people killed in flooding across Australia’s southeast this past week to two.

On October 11, the body of a 46-year-old man was discovered in a submerged vehicle near Bathurst in New South Wales.

Victoria Police said the exact circumstances surrounding the latest death, of the 71-year-old, remain unclear.

Hundreds of people have been rescued already, according to Wiebusch, who has warned that more evacuation orders will be issued over the coming days.

Wild weather has battered Australia recently. The historic rainfall, brought about by La Niña conditions, has caused rivers to swell beyond their banks and left thousands homeless.

Speaking on Saturday, Andrews had said the number of flooded houses and isolated communities would “almost certainly grow as we see flooding peak.”

# [Alaska snow crab season canceled, billion crabs disappear - TheBlaze](#)

#bibleprophecy, #alaska, #snowcrabs, #foodshortages

Oct 15, 2022

A mysterious disappearance of an estimated 1 billion snow crabs has forced Alaska to cancel the winter snow crab season – the first time in state history.

On Monday, the [Alaska Department of Fish and Game](#) (ADF&G) canceled the entire 2022-2023 snow crab season.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game declared, "The stock is estimated to be below the ADF&G regulatory threshold for opening a fishery. Therefore, Bering Sea snow crab will remain closed for the 2022/23 season."

For the second year in a row, [ADF&G](#) officials canceled the Bristol Bay red king crab harvest for the 2022-2023 season.

There has been a sudden and dramatic plunge in crab stocks in the region.

Miranda Westphal – an area management biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game – noted that the conservation organization had seen the "largest pulse of small crab we'd ever seen in the history of the fishery" in 2018.

However, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game told [USA Today](#) that there was a whopping 92% decrease in overall snow crab abundance from 2018 to 2021. Last year's snow crab harvest was 5.6 million pounds – the smallest in more than 40 years.

An estimated 1 billion snow crabs have mysteriously disappeared in two years, state officials told [CBS News](#).

Westphal said the 2021 harvest was "the biggest crash we've ever seen in snow crab."

"That was really unexpected," she added. "I don't think anyone saw this coming."

Scientists are bewildered by the sudden disappearance of snow crabs.

The [Seattle Times](#) reported, "Scientists are still researching the causes of the snow crab population collapse, which likely include increased predation as well as stresses from the warmer water that caused crabs' metabolisms to increase and could have led to starvation."

Ben Daly – a researcher with ADF&G – said, "Disease is one possibility."

The cancellation of the snow crab season could cost the state's economy \$200 million and could be career-ending for some.



Dean Gribble Sr. – a crab boat captain who has fished for snow crab since the late 1970s – told [NBC News](#), "It's going to be life-changing, if not career-ending, for people. A lot of these guys with families and kids, there's no option other than getting out. That's where the hammer is going to fall – on the crew."

The ADF&G said going forward, "Management of Bering Sea snow crab must now focus on conservation and rebuilding, given the condition of the stock."

In 1983, there was a similar [crash](#) that wiped out a massive amount of the population of the Alaskan king crabs. At the time, scientists were perplexed by the mysterious disappearance of Alaskan king crab and blamed factors "ranging from parasitic disease to increasing losses to predatory fish species to warmer ocean currents to overfishing."

The canceled snow crab season will contribute to the ever-growing [food shortages](#) that have been felt worldwide.

Alaska snow crab harvest canceled for first time ever [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

# 'Witchcraft Is No Longer Evil': Deeply Disturbing Trend Purportedly at Center of 'Hocus Pocus 2' | CBN News

#bibleprophecy, #witchcraft, #evil, #movie

Oct 8, 2022

Many Christian parents are understandably cautious about “Hocus Pocus 2,” the Halloween-themed sequel to the popular 1993 film starring Bette Midler, Sarah Jessica Parker, and Kathy Najimy.

That’s understandable, considering the occultic themes prevalent throughout the film. But [a recent Religion News Service article](#) about the handling of witchcraft in the movie might add even more angst to the mix.

The original “Hocus Pocus” emerged in 1993 amid the so-called “Satanic panic,” a timeframe during which allegations of satanic ritual abuse and other elements ran rampant in culture.

RNS reporter Heather Greene noted the original film reflected negative cultural views on witchcraft but that the new movie takes a different approach. According to Greene, [in the sequel](#), “Witchcraft is no longer evil.” Here’s how she summarizes the changes:

*Flash-forward 29 years. Satanic panic is ancient history and modern witchcraft has fully emerged from the proverbial broom closet, legally recognized and accepted as a spiritual path and religion. Pentacles appear on gravestones even in veterans cemeteries. Prison chaplains host Wiccan circles and satanists fight openly for religious equality.*

*Occult practices, such as tarot, are now openly practiced by teens from all walks of life and all faiths.*

Thus, “Hocus Pocus 2” purportedly changed its tone to meet the current cultural acceptance of witchcraft. Despite these disturbing facts, the reasoning here might not be too far off.

In fact, Springtide Research Institute [conducted a survey last year](#) and found 51% of 13 to 25-year-olds were engaging in fortune-telling or tarot cards. And as Faithwire [has reported](#), even big brands like McDonald’s are diving into these sorts of practices.

Earlier this year, in an unfortunate infusion of occultism, customers [using the McDonald’s app](#) were able to buy a medium order of fries were given a free McDouble or McChicken and the chance to snag a tarot card reading.

McDonald's reportedly partnered with Madam Adam, a tarot card reader with expertise in astrology, to offer readings to select customers. To "[win,](#)" customers reportedly needed to go to Madam Adam's Instagram or TikTok posts to share their Zodiac sign and name.

With all this in mind, is it really a surprise the latest "Hocus Pocus" takes a more friendly view of witchcraft, infusing it with "friendly" witches, crystals, and other flavors of the day? It's even less surprising when we consider there's at least one [satanic-themed cartoon today.](#)

While many use unfounded claims from the satanic panic era to dismiss worries about evil and the occult, the Bible is clear that these practices — witchcraft, tarot, fortune-telling — are very real and are to be avoided at all costs.

A pleasant face is being placed on these practices today. Sadly, we're also seeing reports of massive increases in [requests for exorcism,](#) and warnings from pastors about these practices.

"We're stepping into this area right now. New Age practices are becoming a normal phenomenon," Mike Signorelli, pastor of V1 Church in New York City, recently told "[The Playing With Fire Podcast.](#)" "Even secular companies are provoking people to step into the spiritual realm or to believe in the supernatural in a way that — it's like we're moving past atheism and we're moving into 'spiritual but not religious' as a people."

Ex-psyhic Jenn Nizza is another person who has spoken out on these issues. Nizza spent years performing psychic readings and communicating with what she believed were the dead loved ones of her clients — until she had an encounter with Jesus that changed everything.

"There is no good spirit talking to a psychic. ... They masquerade as your deceased loved ones," Nizza said. "When it seemed like mom or dad or grandma, and you're crying with your client ... that seems good and comfortable."

But the ex-psyhic said mediums are actually convening with evil. Listen to the conversation [here.](#)

# [US officials made lucrative stock trades while preparing for Covid-19, WSJ reports \(msn.com\)](#)

#bibleprophecy, #covid, #corruption, #stocktrades

Oct 21, 2022

In January of that year, while the public was broadly unaware of the scale and severity of the threat posed by [the virus](#), US government agencies were mobilizing for a public health nightmare. Many of the officials behind those efforts also made well-timed trades in industries that stood to gain or lose mightily from the pandemic, according to the report.

“Nearly 400 officials across 50 agencies reported owning stocks in airline, resort, hotel, restaurant and cruise companies in early 2020,” the Journal wrote. It also cited roughly 240 officials who owned between \$9 million and \$28 million in stocks of drug, manufacturing and biotech firms that eventually won federal contracts related to Covid-19.

The WSJ report was based on financial disclosure forms for roughly 12,000 government officials between 2016 and 2021. CNN has not independently verified the reporting.

## **Trading spikes as government girds for crisis**

In that crucial month of pandemic preparations, officials at the Department of Health and Human Services made far more stock sales than they had in previous months, the Journal reported. Their trading activity was 60% higher in January 2020 compared to the monthly average in 2019.

Federal officials are barred from working on matters in which they have a personal financial stake, and they’re not allowed to trade on nonpublic information acquired at work. They must disclose their financial assets and transactions every year.

The Journal said most agencies’ ethics rules focus on the kinds of stocks officials can trade, rather than when they can trade.

In one instance highlighted by the Journal, a high-ranking official at the National Institutes of Health reported selling \$15,001 to \$50,000 of a stock mutual fund on January 24 — the same day he sent an email describing the state of his department as “new coronavirus all the time.”

That official, Hugh Auchincloss, the principal deputy director at the NIH’s National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and one of Anthony Fauci’s top deputies, didn’t stop there. A few days later, as alarm about the virus appeared to be growing

within the federal government, Auchincloss made six sales of mutual funds totaling between \$111,006 and \$315,000 in value.

All of those holdings would soon fall sharply in the market downturn that took root as Wall Street and the public began to worry about the virus' spread.

Auchincloss didn't respond to requests for comment by the Journal, and his office didn't immediately respond to a request for comment from CNN.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases told the WSJ that financial disclosures are routinely reviewed by NIH ethics officials to ensure compliance with reporting requirements and resolve potential conflicts of interest. It declined to say whether Auchincloss made the trades himself or had a managed account, according to the Journal.

In another instance of potential conflicts flagged by the Journal, former Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao reportedly purchased more than \$600,000 in two stock funds in March of 2020. At the time, her agency was involved in the pandemic response and her husband, Sen. Mitch McConnell, "was leading negotiations over a giant, market-boosting stimulus bill," the Journal wrote.

A spokesperson for the Transportation Department didn't immediately have a comment.

CNN previously reported that [Sen. Richard Burr avoided about \\$87,000 of losses](#) when he sold off stock at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, according to a search warrant affidavit unsealed in September.

Investigators said in the warrant that because of his position in Congress, the North Carolina Republican knew about the threat of Covid-19 in February – before public concern of severe economic impacts from the pandemic crescendoed. The Justice Department launched an insider trading investigation into Burr, which eventually concluded without criminal charges.

# Mainline Protestant church adds 'nonbinary/genderqueer' to official membership statistics | Fox News

#bibleprophecy, #apostasy, #presbyterian, #inclusive

Oct 26, 2022

Spokesperson for Presbyterian Church USA said traditional definitions of race and gender 'may upset people'

A [mainline Protestant denomination](#) recently announced that it will be adding a "nonbinary/genderqueer" category to its annual report regarding church demographics.

The Office of General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA), which is the largest Presbyterian denomination in the U.S., said Tuesday that it is making a series of changes regarding how it records the number of congregations and membership statistics in the denomination, [according to a press release](#).

In addition to traditional men and women categories, members of PCUSA presbyteries who identify as nonbinary or genderqueer will also be able to record their identity for official church statistics starting next year.

Kris Valerius, who serves as manager of the PCUSA's denominational roles and statistics, said such changes are needed, because if they "want to be inclusive, then we have to start asking because you should be aware of who's a part of your church," according to the release.

## METHODIST LEADERS SAY 'REBELLION AND DYSFUNCTION' OVER LGBT ISSUES SPLITTING DENOMINATION

"We'll have the same categories, we're just not defining them any longer, which may upset people," said Valerius. "The information will be there – we're just removing the definitions."

"For instance, we've always asked how many female members there are in the church. We're now asking how many men, women and nonbinary/genderqueer members there are. We've never asked that question, so we don't know how many people will fill it out."

## TUCKER: MODERN LIBERALS HATE CHRISTIANITY, NOT BECAUSE IT'S REPRESSIVE, BUT BECAUSE THEY ARE

The PCUSA is also removing definitions from the ethnic and racial sections, making changes to its financial section, adding a section to track how many members are 17 or

18, and will no longer be tracking how many members are [receiving formal Christian education](#).

While still [the largest Presbyterian denomination](#) in the U.S. at 1.1 million active members and 8,813 member congregations, the PCUSA has been hemorrhaging churches and members over recent years. The PCUSA reported earlier this year that it has seen more than 51,000 members depart since 2021.

In 2012, [the denomination had](#) about 700,000 more members than today, and about 1,400 more congregations, many of which have left for more conservative Presbyterian denominations such as Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians, the Presbyterian Church in America, and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

# [Baylor University Basketball Coach Says Players Accepting Christ Is 'More Exciting' Than Winning Any Game - Milton Quintanilla \(christianheadlines.com\)](#)

#bibleprophecy, #salvation, #gospel, #basketball

Oct 19, 2022

In a [new video series](#) released by the Religious Freedom Institute (RFI), Baylor University's Men's Basketball Coach addressed how "winning the game of life" matters more than championship titles, trophies, or fame.

"All that matters is when I get to those gates, God's not going to say, 'What was your record? How many players did you help get to the pros? How many championships did you win?' So at the end of the day, I am making sure [the players] are winning the game of life," [Head coach Scott Drew for the Baylor Bears said](#).

"If you have the right foundation and you know that Jesus has a plan for your life, and you trust Him in handling your future, then you can relax and enjoy the game of basketball, you can enjoy the game of life, and at the end of the day winning the game of life is a lot more important than the game," he continued.

Drew, who has been leading the team since 2003, told RFI that seeing players accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior is "more exciting" than winning any game.

"Seeing the spiritual growth, guys. Players who accept Christ, players who maybe prayed for the first time with the team, players who get baptized, players who come back and get Bible studies and go to church, and you know that's what's really exciting," he explained.

"Sometimes those victories are not written and talked about in the newspapers or TV, but again, those are the ones that really matter," he added.

Drew also says he's grateful to be at a Christian University where he can publicly share his faith with others, [CBN News reports](#).

"Baylor University gives you that opportunity. Spiritually we're allowed to have an impact in our players' lives, so many of my coaching friends [that] are devout in their faith are at institutions where they can't," he shared. "I am a much better husband, father, spiritually I have grown from the staff that we have because we will do coach's bible studies together, and we start every meeting in prayer."

He added the culture of "joy, Jesus, others, and yourself" will continue to grow the program.



"We have also been a Christ-centered program, and that is our foundation," he said.

Drew's interview with the RFI is the first in the video series that features "Americans from different religious traditions and walks of life witnessing to how they exercise their faith in all areas of their life, and why religious freedom is essential."

In 2003, Drew inherited the Baylor Bears during a time when the basketball program was under scrutiny and scandal. From that point on, the program was described as the most dramatic turnaround in college basketball history.

"Everything we do around the program is Christ-centered," he told [CBN News](#). "The great thing is we can prepare champions for life. And that's a spiritual, academic, and character formation in athletics. So, for us to be able to incorporate the spiritual part has been so key and paramount to all our success, and He's blessed us."

Last year, Drew led the team to their first NCAA national championship title.