

Slides are displayed throughout the lecture

- Thank you very much, Judy. So this is the last of a series on what I called The Great Libel, the Nazification of Israel. It's a very difficult one to take, but I thought it was quite important to actually look at this course, and that's why we've overlapped a little bit with Britain. But in many ways it is important because the new Left in Britain, or rather the extreme Left in Britain, has very much led the way in Europe and in America on this extreme anti-Israel rhetoric, which has spilled over into antisemitism. And I think for many Jews this is particularly upsetting because after all, if you think about it, the Left has always had a proud history of taking the side of the oppressed, involved in the abolition of slavery, rights for women. I'm talking now about the Liberal Left. So, the question that's of often asked, how can a person with Left wing views who is opposed to racism and injustice, beat an anti-Semite? Now, Hannah Arendt, in her mastery book, "The Origins Of Totalitarianism," points the evolution of antisemitism amongst socialists and social democratic parties in the 19th and early 20th century. She said, "The problem was, you always had the equation of Jews with capitalists." Just as with the fascist Right and with the Right in general, you have the equation of the Jews with communism, it's back to the old canna, what does it mean to be a Jew? And I know that came up a couple of times in questions, and I've discussed it with Wendy, and we are going to somehow create a debate format with different speakers on what it means to be a Jew.

And also another point to make, ironically, and I dealt with this in my first presentation in this series, many of the leaders of communism were Jewish. So again, you get this whole notion of Jewish world conspiracy. And the majority of Jews in the West, were Liberal or Left. If you think about it, the majority of Jews in America always voted Democrat. The majority of Jews in England always voted Labour right up to the 70s, because to them the Left was the heir to the Liberal tradition of the enlightenment. And never forget, it was the enlightenment that really first emancipated the Jews. It's the enlightenment that made them fall in love with European culture. And generally, the Western socialist tradition adhered to the traditions of the enlightenment. But what has happened today is that, Israel is now singled out as the really, the pariah of the nations. There are more resolutions passed against Israel than any other nation. The fanaticism with which the cause of the Palestinians have been taken up is quite extraordinary. Now let me be very, very careful. It's not a question as to whether the Palestinians deserve support, but it's a question, why is this people singled out above or other? Why do Palestinian flags appear at Labour Party conferences? If you think of some of the horrors that we've seen in the past few years, the Moroccan and annexation of the Western Sahara, Beijing's crossing of Hong Kong, the oppressed Christian minorities all over the Muslim world, the fight of India and Pakistan over Kashmir, China with the Oujia, Russia's annexation of the Crimea, and now Russia in the Ukraine that is giving us. I mean, with Russia and Ukraine, you are getting condemnation, but it's not of the same level.

So consequently, we have to look at the question, why is it that the Palestinians are singled out above all other? And why is it that Hamas, which marches with the Left in Britain, the extreme Left, it calls for every Jew in the world to be annihilated. "And if you are anti-racist," says the extreme Left, "you must stand with Hamas." And don't forget, Israel's the only country in the world in the Middle East that has a Gay Pride march. What happens to homosexuals if they are discovered by Hamas? So if surely, if you are against homophobia, shouldn't you also be against Hamas? And after all, Israel is a democracy, but all the problems of Israel, and let's be very careful here, this is not a political debate. I'm not going to take sides of the Left or the Right in Israel. I'm not going to take sides over the issue of a one state or two state solution. That is left to you and your own personal opinions. What I'm talking about is that

the fascination that Abbas is in his fourth term, his 16th year, and yet where is democracy in Palestine? So we have to be very careful. And also the hard Left are anti-racist. They don't hate the Jews for day aside. They don't believe in a blood libel. They are existentially anti-Zionist. They don't believe the Jews are a nation. They're also obsessed by Israel's relationship with America. America is big Satan to the ultra Left. They need to destroy capitalism. They need to destroy imperialism. And Iranian Mullahs may kill homosexuals, they may stone adulteresses, but they are against American imperialism and Zionism.

So the next step in this terrible disease is that the hatred of Israel becomes almost conspiratorial. And never forget Marxism rejects Liberal democracy. According to this creed, rich and powerful capitalists make all the big decisions, they control the press, they befuddle the masses, and the world is run by a cabal of the rich. The urban legend, and unfortunately, all you have to do is go on the web, Jews control America. As far as the Middle East is concerned, American policy is really in the hands of Zionist billionaires. There is no logic to any of this. And after all, to the extreme Left, to the extreme Right, and I'm not negating antisemitism on the Right by the way. It's just, I'm not talking about that tonight. So to the extreme Left, the Jews are the archetypes of capitalism. Ironically for Hitler, Bolshevism was Jewish. To the Left, the Left believed, if you think about Lennon and Trotsky, they believed if you destroyed capitalism, you would destroy antisemitism. They saw antisemitism as the product of a sick society. And the other problem today is the self-describing Leftists, has so distorted the Holocaust that there's now the allegation that Jews, particularly Zionists, colluded in the destruction of their own people. And I've already begun to share with you the articles and the statements by some of the leadership.

But now I'm going to concentrate specifically on Britain. And can we please see the first slide? This is the Socialist Workers Party. It was founded in 1952 as a group of international socialists, followers of Trotsky, and in 1977 it becomes the Socialist Workers Party. It was created, can we see the next slide? It was created by a man called Tony Cliff. His born name was Yigael Glückstein. His dates, we can't quite see his dates on my screen, but it's 1917 to 2000. In fact, his parents were Polish immigrants to Palestine. Second Aliyah, a very well connected intellectual family. His mother was a piano teacher and also a sister of Chaim Weizmann, his father's business partner was one of Weizmann's brothers. Their family were absolutely at the centre of Second Aliyah, Left wing politics and also of the intellectual milia of Palestine. He went to school in Jerusalem, then he went to the Haifa Technion. He did economics at the Hebrew U. And he joined Hashomer Hatzair. But then he becomes a follower of Trotsky and gradually opposes Zionism. He joined in, when he was in mandate Britain, in mandate Palestine under the British. He joined the illegal Palestinian Revolutionary Communist League. He opposed mobilisation of Jews in the war. Saw the second World war as an imperialist capitalist war.

The problem with the extreme Left, and it's the same as the extreme Right, there is no flexibility of thought. You have to go to the Liberal centre, I think, to come up with more flexibility. And that's all I'm asking for, flexibility of thought. They create a mantra and all the ideas have to fit into it. He was imprisoned by the British. And that's where he met his future wife, a woman called Chanie Rosenberg, who was a South African immigrant. They lived together in Tel Aviv between 45 and 47. Came to the UK in 47, but was never granted British citizenship. So he lived much of his life in Ireland. But because of his wife's citizenship, he was allowed to live in London. It's a socialist revolutionary group and it evolves into the workers revolutionary party. And can we see the next slide, please? The newspaper was New Line. And let me give you some quotes from New Line, "The lies of Zionist plotters." And it becomes, as I said last time, it becomes toxic particularly after begging becomes Prime Minister and the invasion of Lebanon.

This is the new line on the invasion of Lebanon. "Graveyard with the help of the American paymasters." They called it the final solution. Very much used holocaust terminology to describe Israel in Lebanon. That's why I've called this session, "The Great Libel: The Nazification of Israel." And let me say very, very carefully, because I think this was misunderstood by a couple of people who don't have English as a first language. It's in italics. I am not in any way equating Israel with a Nazi state. On the contrary, I'm trying to show you how it's evolved on the West. Another quote, "Beirut is the gas chamber of the Palestinians, Horror gas weapons, the Nazi style barbarism of Zionism and imperialism and the linking together of Begin, Thatcher and Reagan." And also, the Jewish cabal around Maggie Thatcher. The fact that she had, Margaret Thatcher, an extraordinary woman, herself, an outsider, did have in her cabinet quite a few Jews. Her family actually took in a kinder. And not only that, she was MP for Finchley. And she had a lot of sympathy for Jewish causes. So basically it's twisted to talk about a Jewish cabal around Maggie. And this notion, we are no longer talking about Israel and politics, we're talking about the Jew. The word has spread. It's no longer Israeli, it's Jew. And so, this is another random sample from New Line. "Ben-Gurion, welcome to the killing of European Jews because it got rid of the old and sick," and very much brands Israel as a Nazi state.

Now, can we go on please? Two of the most famous members of the group were actually Corin and Vanessa Redgrave. It's fascinating how many of the Lefty darlings come from the world of theatre. And they plunge themselves into all this work. And she actually met with Libyan officials in 1977. This is under Gaddafi. And they issued a joint statement opposing Zionism, American imperialism and Sadat. Don't forget that Sadat had entered into a peace agreement with Israel. Can we go on, please? Another important anti-Zionist was Lenni Brenner, another Jew. I don't like to use the word, self-hating Jew, because I'm always shouted out if I ever do it with people on the Left. But I do believe that certainly, I do believe that Tony Cliff and Lenni Brenner are tainted with it. That is my own personal view. So who was Lenny Brenner? He wrote a very dangerous book called, "Zionism in the Age of the Dictators," dangerous if you believe in any kind of equal balance. He also came from an Orthodox Jewish family. He was interested in history. By 15, he turns away from religion. He becomes a Marxist. He's involved in civil rights movements.

And he then gets involved in America in the freedom Rights in the early 1960s. He also worked with Bayard Rustin who organised Martin Luther King's, "I Have a Dream" march. So he's very much on the side of the oppressed. He sees himself, you know, he's marching with the civil rights movement as so many Jews did. So many Left-wing Jews who were also pro-Zionist, were involved with the civil rights movements. And I don't have to tell you, those of you who are American or South African, how many of you were involved in these movements? He was arrested three times during the civil right sit-ins. He spent 39 months in jail for dope possession. And he was banned from Berkeley because of his activities. He's very much an anti-war activist. He's involved in protesting against the Vietnam War. So you see, many of these causes had attracted young people on the Left in the 60s. He co-founded the National Association for Irish Justice, which is the American affiliate of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Movement. So at this stage he's fighting for justice. And he also in the 1990s with Stanley Carmichael, the Black Power leader of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. But then he co-founded The Committee Against Zionism and Racism. He also published anti-war papers.

Now the point is, he's now gone another stage. He's equating Zionism with racism. Remember the 1975 Resolution of the United Nations, which was then disclaimed in 1991? And it had a lot to do with the right of return and a complete misunderstanding of the right of return. He spoke at the open meeting of Jews against Zionism. And also, in 2011 we find him at the Israeli Apartheid Week in Berlin, the equation of Israeli policy with South African Apartheid. At an event called One State Solution at the

Islamic Association of Greater Hartford, he said, "Jewish money had bought Truman's vote at the United Nations in 1947." Now in his book, "Zionism in the Age of the Dictators," can we see the cover of that please, Judy? The problem is he said, "Jews collaborated with the Nazis in the Holocaust to build up Jewish presence in Palestine." But he opposes his work being used by Holocaust deniers. But he still doesn't give in on this point that Jews somehow collaborated with, that the Jews in Palestine, the Zionists rather, collaborated with the Nazis in the Holocaust. Now, can we go on, please? And it leads also to a play that was to be staged in Britain called "Perdition," which is a total perversion of the Kastner affair. The text, "The Zionist knife in the Nazi fist." This is a line, "To save your hides, you practically led them to the gas chambers of Auschwitz. Israel was founded on the pillar of Western Built."

Jim Allen who wrote the play, was very much influenced by Lenni Brenner's book that I've just taught about. And this is what Alan said. "This play is the most lethal attack on Zionism ever written because it states quite plainly that privileged Jewish leaders collaborated in the extermination of the Jews in order to bring about a Zionist state, Israel, which is in itself racist." According to Jim Allen who writes it based on Brenner, "The lower you went down on the social scale, the more you found resistance, the higher you went up the social scale, the more you found collaboration and cooperation." He said that in an interview with Time Out. In the end, the play was abandoned because of objections by whole host of people, Sir Martin Gilbert, David Cesarani, two of the greatest British Jewish historians both said the play was deeply antisemitic. Max Clifford-Clark, who was the director of the Royal Court, rejected the accusation. But continuing would cause great stress to certain sections of the community. It was directed by Ken Loach who said, "The play closed because of pressure from the Jews." Loach told a reporter from the Worker's Revolutionary Party that he hadn't tangled with the Zionist lobby before. Quote, "What is amazing is the strength and organisation in power of their lobby." And he blamed the Zionist machine. So, it's a fictional libel trial.

So it's based on Kastner and also on a fictional libel trial that comes from a Lean Uris book, "QB VII." And basically, David Cesarani stated quite strongly that Alan drew on anti-Zionist stereotypes, which had come straight from the Soviet Union. You see, there's some very good historians who've worked on this. David Cesarani, Martin Gilbert, Robert Wistrich. Unfortunately, they have all passed away now. But they did so much sterling work that is there for us to use. And this is again from Loach in a letter to The Guardian in connection with the premature end of another play, "The charge of," this is Loach, "The charge of antisemitism is the time-honoured way to defeat anti-Zionism. That all you've got to say is that you are being anti-Zionist. And in fact, they say you are being antisemitic. David Rich, who gave a brilliant interview on Lockdown last night. He actually called the play a Stalinist Lie. It was also slightly based on a book called "Perfidy" by Ben Hecht, which I'm not going into now, but I will later on as another time.

Now, Jim Allen, let's talk. Can we see the next? This is Jim Allen. He was a working class, Manchester background. He went to work at 13, joined the Workers Revolutionary Party. He met Ken Loach in 1967, Socialist Labour League, Workers Revolutionary Party, International Socialist, Marxist. He was later involved with the Respect Party, which brought him close to a man called George Galloway. He is very much, Ken Loach is very much seen as the intellectual guru of the Labour Party. And he was part of the planning, the academic boycott and cultural boycott of Israel, 2007 in a open letter to the San Francisco LGBT Film Festival, he advocated an international boycott on all Israeli cultural and political institutions. In a letter on Israel's 60th birthday in the International Herald Tribune, he said, "Tantamount to dancing on Palestinian graves." And in 2009, "Nothing had been a greater instigator of antisemitism than the Jewish state itself." Do you see how it's all being twisted? Now, what about Ken Loach? Let's have a

look at him. This is the gallery of the famous. This is the intellectual guru of the Left. He was born in Warwickshire, Grammar School boy, RAF, Law at Oxford, third class. My daughter laughs at that. He became involved in experimental theatre club. He had a career in the dramatic arts, regional theatre, then the BBC, becomes a very, very famous director. A man of the people very much speaking for the British working classes in very good films like "Up the Junk Plays," and then films, "Up the Junction," "Cathy Come Home," very much into working class conflict, violently against capital punishment.

Interesting, it was a Jew, Sydney Silverman, who was behind the parliamentary campaign to get rid of the death penalty. "Up the Junction" was about illegal abortion. He wrote plays about homelessness, unemployment, the lack of social services, mental health. Some of his films like "Poor Cow" and "Kes," in the British Film Institute, "Kes" is number seven in the list of the best films of the 20th century. So basically, he is a very important figure on the intellectual Left. And he's made films on Northern island. He's very pro IRA. He made films on the Spanish Civil War. And in 2006, the film that was shown at Cannes, "The Wind that Shakes the Barley," which is about the Irish War of Independence. He won the BAFTA in 2016 for "Daniel Blake," the outstanding British film. So basically, he is a man that is violently Zionist. Anytime anyone accuses him of antisemitism, he sues. And he is the guru of the extreme Left. Can we go on, please? This is one of his quotes, This was in the, I think it was in The Guardian. Let me just check. Yeah, it was The Guardian. "As its first director, I can say that the essential story of the play tells of a collaboration of some Zionists with the Nazis in Budapest in 1944. It was not challenged and stands historical fact. The torrent of misinformation about Jim Allen's play came from those who objected to the political critique of Zionism and its consequent dispossession of the Palestinians. "The charge of antisemitism is the time-honoured way to deflect anti-Zionist arguments." And can I be pedantic? Honoured is not spelled wrong. That's the English spelling. And I guess our spell check is American. You have to find a bit of levity sometimes.

Can we go on, please? Now we come to Roald Dahl. And I bought him into the soup because again, he is the beloved children's author and also a darling of the intelligentsia. His background, I'm not going to spend too much time on it, but the point is he was very, very brilliant. He was brilliant. He had a very uneasy time at school. But he becomes a much beloved children's author. He wrote stories that put children first. This is a quote of his, "Parents and school teachers are the enemy. The adult is the enemy of the child because of the awful process of civilising the thing that when it was born, was an animal with no manners and no moral sense at all. And in an interview, talking about his anti-Zionism and antisemitism, this is an interview in 1983 with the new statesman. He suggested, "Jews promote animosity. Maybe it's a lack of generosity towards non-Jews. There's always a reason why anti-anything crops up anywhere. Even a stinker like Hitler didn't pick on them for no reason. And this is something so painful on Nazi victims. If I were in a line moving towards the gas chambers, I'd rather have a go at taking one of the guards with me but they're always submissive. I mean that is so disgusting. And not only is it disgusting, it is also untrue. But I'm not even going to repute it." In a 1990 interview, "I am certainly anti-Israel and I have become anti-Semitic." In fact, there was so much protest about his views that the Royal Mint scrapped plans for a limited edition coin commemorating him.

But it's important to remember that antisemitism and anti-Zionism is not the product of the ghetto, not the product of the, I misspoke there. Not the product of the worker. It's not the product really of the ill-educated. I'm talking now about the educated classes. And ironically, to a large extent, it was the real working classes that stopped Corbyn when he was leader of the Labour Party. And at the election, he could have become Prime Minister. Now, let's come on to some of the more strange bedfellows. Can we see the next slide, Judy? This is the Socialist Worker that I've already talked about. Now let's see.

"Ben-Gurion welcome the killing of," can we go back to that? Sorry, Judy. "Welcome the killing of all European Jews because it got rid of the old and the sick." Can we come onto the next slide, please?

The Stop The War Coalition, which was formed on the 21st of September, 2001. And of course this was to stop the war in Iraq. Who were the key members? Tony Benn, Jeremy Corbyn, George Galloway. And on the 15th of February, 2003, this is the largest peace time demonstration in British history. It was launched at a meeting chaired by Lindsey German of the Socialist Workers Party. The steering committee, George Galloway, Tam Dalyell, Jeremy Corbyn, Tariq Ali, and the Jewish writer, Harold Pinter, to call everyone together who wants to stop the madness. So who marched? The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, the Muslim Association of Britain, the Labour Left, the Communist Party of Great Britain, the Alliance for Workers' Liberty, but it was the Socialist Workers' Party that dominated the organisation. Marches included Greenpeace, The Liberal Democrats, the Scottish National Party amongst 450 affiliates against the racist backlash. There were demonstrations against George Bush, against Guantanamo Bay. And following the seven seven bombings, the Socialist Workers Party, the CND and the Muslim Association of Britain, held a peace vigil condemning the bombings that added that the only way to stop them was to withdraw from Iraq, Afghanistan, and Palestine. They said, "When we have justice, we will have peace."

15th of March, can we go on please, Jude, here, you see, this is the Free Palestine, Boycott Israel marching along with them. It's all one group. And it's fascinating that Hamas will march with these groups and hand out leaflets, which are homophobic. So this is the strange coalition. Now can we go on please, Jude? More of the things that you see marching along, Irish solidarity. This is the Palestine Solidarity campaign, which had actually been founded back in 1982 during the buildup to the Israel-Lebanon War. And there were 20 people on the executive. Two members, two representative of the Trade Union Advisory Committee, one of the founders was Tony Greenstein, another Jew, founder of Jews Boycotting Israel, the BDS goods. There are 40 branches. The patrons include Julie Christie, the famous actress, Jeremy Corbyn. Bruce Kenter, the CND, Ilan Pappé, Jenny Tong, Caryl Churchill. The Trade Union affiliates are AZLA, BECTU, the Broadcasting Entertainment Cinema Theatre Union, The Fire Brigades Union, the National Union of Teachers, the University and College Union, Unison Unite. It officially supported the boycott since 2001. They have led to disruptions of the Israeli Philharmonic in 2012, when the Habima performed at the Globe Theatre. And November, 2012, they created a 69 minute YouTube, the case for cultural and academic boycott of Israel. It was introduced by Ken Loach.

So in 2015, they protested against Israel LGBT event in Lebanon. Jewish socialists are not allowed to march with these people. And in fact, at the Labour Party conference, when Corbyn was leader, Left wing Israeli groups that came to express solidarity were thrown out of meetings. Now 2002, the pro-Palestinian rally was led by Corbyn. He was the first member of parliament to call for a boycott of Israel. At that rally, supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood were handing out leaflets which said, "Muslim and non-Muslim should not be treated as equals. They're against the rights for women, they're against secular society, they are against human rights." The Association of University Teachers, April, 2005, 40,000 members, the boycott of two Israeli universities, Bar-Ilan and Haifa, International pressure actually stopped that. And you've got to see, outer Great Britain is coming. They're the pioneers of anti-Israel rhetoric. It leads the pack in boycott and academic isolation of Israel. And the other problem is, this course, it's spreading to America. And what are its stated goals? The rights of return to Palestine, Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied territories, and opposed to all forms of racism, including anti-Jewish prejudice. So go figure. And look what they've done with the map. They run workshops and how to deal with Zionist arguments. What to say to those who call us antisemitic? What

are the settlements? What will boycotting of Israel's goods achieve? Tony Benn, by the way, was also a patron.

So, can we go on, please? Things became much worse when, of course, Ken Livingstone was mayor of London. He is a close ally of Corbyn. He comes from the traditional background. Both he and Corbyn works their way through local politics. He goes into local politics and then he becomes, later on, he becomes Mayor of London. He supported Republicanism, LGBT rights, a united Ireland, Palestine. He was called Red Ken. He was also closely associated with anti-racist claims. This is one of the problems, they think they have the monopoly. He unsuccessfully stood as Labour leader. And after not being selected as Labour mayor, Labour mayoral candidate, he stood as an independent. And he oversaw in London's bid to host the Olympics. Very, very popular mayor until he lost finally to Boris Johnson. He called the Lebanon War, an international struggle against Zionism and imperialism. And he denounced the Labour Party for its silence over Lebanon, where the Israelis slaughtered quote, unquote, "Thousands and seized half a nation." And April, 1982, the Trotskyite newspaper publicly insisted that the Jewish world conspiracy extended from Jews in Maggie Thatcher's Cabinet to the newly appointed Chairman of the BBC, Stuart Young.

Now, yesterday I had the honour to go to Lord Young's memorial. Stuart Young's widow is a very close friend of mine. They were such wonderful people. They were sincere Jews, who also believed in giving a service to Britain. And to actually, to have to read this, the day after his memorial is just turning my stomach. Robert Wistrich calls this, "Was this the anti-imperialism of idiots?" So his Labour Herald, his paper, suggested the Zionists had betrayed the Jews in the Holocaust to achieve their own ends. They were not interested in saving the Jews of Europe, but in stealing Palestine from the Arabs. He pushed forward the idea that the Jews pulled all the strings in Washington and in London. He made personal attacks on Michael Levy, the Blair's Middle East envoy. And insisted that new Labour and American policy was shaped by the Jewish lobby. Hated Tony Blair 'cause Tony Blair was much more centrist and they hated these kind of characters. So gradually though, swathes of Liberal and Left opinion were brought into this. This is Tam Dalyell, MP. "Blair is surrounded by a sinister cabal of Jewish advisors who instigated the Iraq war. He accused Jack Straw who happened, I think to have Jewish grandparents, Mandelson and Michael Levy. Don't forget that the Palestinian Solidarity Campaign was also backed by elements of the Church of England, particularly the Methodist 70 million worldwide. And frankly, Robert Wistrich's comment, "Their report could be written by Hamas." And he said, Robert said, "Israel doesn't fit easily with Liberal Left consensus and reverence for international organisations." So basically, gradually it gets worse and worse and worse.

Can we go on, please? Let's have a look at, here, you see more demonstrations. This is Trafalgar Square where Tony Benn actually said, "Power is in the streets." And that's when Jeremy Corbyn called for a boycott of Israel, the BDS campaign. So it's all twisted up, do you see? And you can understand I think, how perhaps the Left, Left wing young idealists can get sucked into all of this because it's anti-racist, it's anti-establishment. So Corbyn, Corbyn's background is interesting. He became an MP in 1983. He actually came from a middle class background, which he tried to hide. He was actually, can we see his picture, please? Can we go on, Jude?

Yeah, there's Jeremy Corbyn. I think he was born in 1948. And he came from Chippenham, in Wiltshire. He was the youngest son of a math teacher and an engineer. His parents were part of the Peace Movement. They met at a rally for Spain. the Spanish Civil War. He went to a prep school and a grammar school. Part of CND, part of the protest movements. I knew all these. No. I didn't know Jeremy Corbyn personally, but I used to go march into the CND and I'm came from the same generation

as him. So I know that mantra and that militia. He joined the Young socialist, he joined the League Against Cruel Sports. He did very badly at A Level. He was joined CND. And not only that, he became one of its three chairs. He did voluntary service overseas. He became the official for the National Union of Tailors. He did it through the Left. He's elected to Harringay Council. He's a counsellor. He worked on Tony Benn's election campaign. He allowed Tariq Ali to join despite his Marxism. The Labour Party expelled militant tendency. He was completely against it. He joined the Socialist Campaign group. He was arrested outside South Africa House. He wrote a weekly column for the Morning Star. He also, by the way, wrote for an Iranian newspaper. According to the Sunday Times, he was involved in 72 events connected to Sinn Féin, which he was monitored by MI5. In a letter to The Guardian of 2001, he supported the BDS Campaign. He was one of the 100 people asking the San Francisco LGBT Film Festival to boycott any Israeli political and cultural associations because the Israeli consulate was giving money to the festival. He said, "Celebrating Israel is tantamount to dancing on Palestinian graves." He wrote in the International Herald Tribune, "Israel feeds feelings of antisemitism. Nothing has been a greater instigator of antisemitism than the self-proclaimed Jewish state."

Now, he also supported the campaign to overthrow the conviction of two Palestinian Arabs involved in the 1994 bombing of the Israeli embassy. The convictions were upheld by the High Court of Justice and the European Court. Between 1997 and 2010, he was the Labour MP who voted most against the Party Whip. He hosted a show on Iranian Television for which he was paid 20,000 pounds a year. He had to declare it in the United Commons. He's a leading member. He was before he became party leader, he was a leading member of all these kind of characters. And the Stop The War meeting in 2009, he invited his friends from Hamas and Hezbollah to an event in Parliament. He said this, "Hamas is an organisation dedicated the good of the Palestinian people." He demanded the decommissioning of Israel's nuclear capacity. He wrote a forward in 2011 to a book that a British socialist, John Hobson, had written on, "The War in South Africa, its Causes and Effect." An antisemitic tract, he blamed a small group of international financiers, chiefly German in origin and Jewish by race. He identified the roots of imperialism of the Rothschilds. And Corbyn wrote a forward to a new edition.

Now, so the Left throughout Europe, the nexus between late 19th century colonials, imperialism and international jury. So basically, that brings that all awful canon into the argument. Can we go on, Jude. The gallery of the horrors. This is George Galloway, the Respect Party. He was against the Gulf War. He wrote this, "Kuwait is part of a greater Iraq, stolen by perfidious Albion." He met up with Sudan Hussein. Fraternal Greetings from Gaza. He was called the MP for Baghdad North. He campaigned against sanctions in Iraq. He's a very unpleasant character, always associated, there's lots of financial scandals, womanising. In the 6th of May, David Triesman, who was General Secretary of the Labour Party, suspended him from holding office. He said he brought the party into disrepute. He's violently anti-Israel. When he managed to get a seat in Parliament, he said, "Despite all efforts made by the British government and Zionists movements, the press and news controlled by Zionism." And he said, "Hezbollah has never been a terrorist organisation. They are freedom fighters. The Palestinian people are the new Warsaw ghetto." That was a speech in Trafalgar Square. "Israel is a Nazi's gate." He gave great support to the Palestine aid convoy to Gaza. He was deported actually from Egypt. And in 2014 he had trouble with the Charity Commission. He also works for Iranian Television. Okay. Howard Jacobson said that Galloway's campaign shamelessly courted the, "how did he get in? "Courtied Muslim prejudices such as alcohol." He basically stood for a very Muslim constituency.

In 20th February, 2013, he walked out of a debate at Oxford, "Israel should immediately withdrawn from the West Bank." He would never debate with anyone with Israeli citizenship. "I don't recognise Israel and I don't debate with Israel. No recognition, no normalisation. Just debedious until the

apartheid state is defeated. If they want to speak about Palestine, the address is PLO." "He compared the support of debating," I'm quoting, "Israel Zionist with that of supporting South African capitalists." This was a speech in Leeds. "We have declared Bradford as Israel free zone. We don't want any Israeli good services, academics." This is a very Muslim constituency. "We regret this illegal, barbarous, savage state that calls itself Israel." Was this hate speech. He wasn't prosecuted because of insufficient evidence, but the Le Police recorded it as a hate incident. Listen what he said, again, "We reject this illegal, barbarous, savage state." He abstained from the vote in the Commons formally recognising Palestine because it also recognised Israel as well. He was defeated in 2015 by Naz Shah. He stood for the mayor of London against Sadiq Khan. Anyway, he very much endorsed Jeremy Corbyn. And in May, 2016, he said, "The Israel lobby has destroyed the Labour Party." These are very unpleasant characters that I'm talking about but they are important figures on the Left of the political spectrum. Can we go on, please?

This is Caryl Churchill. Caryl Churchill is a, she came from a very middle class background. Oxford educated, a very interesting playwright, exploring gender-sexuality. She was the Royal Court's first female playwright in residence, many awards. She's a patron of the Palestinian Solidarity campaign. And in January, 2009, she wrote "Seven Jewish Children." It's a 10 minute play on the history of Israel ending with the attack on Gaza. It was performed free at the Royal Court and money had to be given. But money was meant to be donated for medical aid for the Palestinians. The Sunday Times Review said, "It was ludicrous and utterly predictable with a complete lack of even handlers. In 2022, she was named recipient of the Drama Award in recognition of her life's work. It was a prize of 65,000 pounds, given by German theatre and sponsored by the Baden-Wurttemberg Ministry of Science and Research. The Award was finally cancelled because of her support for BDS. She's a great supporter of Jeremy Corbyn. She described him as a bastion of hope in the struggle against the emergent, far, far right nationalism, xenophobia and racism in much of the democratic world.

Okay, we are nearly there. Let's have a look at that play that she wrote. Now, that play is, I'm not even going to talk about it, it just makes me so angry. But I must give you one other character and that is Baroness Tonge. Can we see Baroness Tonge? Later on in, I think in August, we are delighted that Baroness Deech is going to talk about Jews, politics, Israel, and the House of Lords. She's of course a member of the House of Lords. Now, Baroness Tonge, she retired in 2001. She was a Liberal peer. She had been the MP for Richmond. In 2004 when MP, she said if she was a Palestinian, she would be a suicide bomber. She was sacked from the front bench, but made a Liberal peer at the following year. She sits as an independent. In 2006, she compared Gaza to the Warsaw Ghetto. In 2009, she met with the Hamas leadership along with Jeremy Corbyn. In 2006, she said the Pro-Israel group has got its grip on the Western world, its financial grip probably got a grip on our party, Liberal Party. This is the 1st of February, 2010. She was a patron of the Palestinian Telegraph. The Palestinian Telegraph published an article falsely occlude, Do you remember the Haiti earthquake? And the idea, immediately sent emergency aid hospital. You know, they are very good at finding people in earthquakes and they are brilliant at this kind of thing. And they go all over the world to help. The paper accused them of harvesting organs to sell. It was a report from a Hezbollah publication. She repeated it. She later resigned from the Palestine Telegraph. They published an article with David Duke, a fascist. So basically, she actually said in Parliament that they were harvest, in the House of Lords, they were harvesting organs. Now, in 2019, 90 peers did call on her to apologise for claiming that the Tories had won the election to talking about defeating Corbyn due to Israel's campaign against Corbyn. She supported Corbyn.

So I'm going to finish with a quote of Robert Wistrich. "Anti-Zionism has developed its own version of sinister Jewish influence, both with Islamists and the new Left. The ideology is imbued with the culture of hatred. Whether the rhetoric of Zionism happens to be Marxist, Muslim, Christian, third worldist, fascist or openly Nazi. It is replete with stereotypical notions of the perfidy, diabolic cunning of the Jews, their corrosive manipulative will to power, their love of gold and intrigue, mastery of hidden forces and domination of the international finance system. The more radical anti-Zionist, no less than classic antisemites are obsessed with the malignant nature and impact of the Jew on the modern world." So what Robert says is all comes together. And of course, along with it goes this terrible distortion of the Holocaust. And I'm just going to give you a few quotes on that before I turn to questions. This is Ken Livingston in 2013, "Let's remember when Hitler won his election in 1932, his policy was that the Jews be moved to Israel. He was supporting Zionism. That is before he went mad and ended up killing 6 million Jews."

And this is Corbyn rally. "We also have to stand up against racism in any form, whatever society. Eventually South African apartheid was defeated. We stood in solidarity with many in the US fighting for civil rights in the 60s and 70s. We stand against the growth of the far right across across Europe. And so we stand against antisemitism and racism in any form. The problem is they see antisemitism as a phenomenon of the far right. They don't realise what they're doing. They have a narrow understanding. They see antisemitism as part of fascism." This is the Morning Star, the communist newspaper, talking about John McDonald, another Trotskyite. "John McDonald," I'm quoting, "cannot be anti-Semitic because he is a Trotskyite and Trotsky was a Jew. Both were influenced by the Jewish Karl Marx. They spent their lives fighting racism." So they argue also, and so did Trotsky, he argued that Nazism was primarily an extreme manifestation of capitalism, racism, and imperialism. And the Left today would argue, it's part of a pattern of genocide in the history of Western colonialism rather than the culmination of European antisemitism. Do you see the difference?

"These are little," I'm quoting Robert again. "These are little family problems and quarrels between European whites." This is where Robert quotes Frantz Fanon, in "Black Skins, White Masks," not the same as racism against blacks. That's where, of course, Diane Abbott made her terrible faux pa recently. Now, this is Tony Greenstein. "For over 40 years, Zionism has had a monopoly on the history of the Holocaust in its interpretation. For socialism, the Holocaust is about one example of Imperialism's genocidal character. This is, if you like, in a way, demeaning the Shoah, not understanding what the Shoah was about. And unfortunately, these are the ideas that have shaped the new Left. I think I've illustrated very strongly, they compare Israel's treatment of the Palestinians to the Nazis. This is George Galloway, "To prevent the idea that the Holocaust is a justification for Zionism in Israel." And also they, they often go on about European guilt. Mick Napier of the Scottish Palestinian campaign, he said in the Socialist Worker, "Holocaust commemoration is used to justify mass murder and expropriation of the Palestinians."

Now the Scottish Palestinian campaign, they often use readings of "Perdition" to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. And this is from a fellow member. The Zionists have controlled the discourse about the Holocaust remembrance for many years and have aggressively quashed the truth about Zionist collaboration with the Nazis. And in Caryl Churchill's play, "Seven Jewish Children," they turned the Holocaust into a morality play. They did Judaize it. And not only that, the plays was to be performed at Lincoln at a university, organised by the Lincoln University in the School of Performing Arts. And it's ironic because it was, of course, in Lincoln. You had the most famous blood libel in English Jewish history. And the other point, they push the universal lessons of the Holocaust. This is used also by many European leaders to justify and promote equality, tolerance and diversity. So if you like, the memory of

the Shoah is now being used. I'm not saying that European leaders use it maliciously, but in a way to equate it with, to try and promote equality is not the story of the Shoah.

This is Lee Jasper, who was the senior policy advisor to Ken Livingston. This is at Genocide Day. "They don't want Holocaust day, they want genocide. Israel in Gaza seeks to do the others. Exactly what was done by the Nazis." And this is from Jackie Walker, another fanatic. "The Jewish Holocaust doesn't allow Zionists to do what they want." John McDonald tabled an early day motion in Parliament, "Israel tries to suppress criticism with force and with force accusations of antisemitism." Now this is Louis Farrakhan, the Nation of Islam. He's now banned from Britain. This is his 1991 book, "The Secret Relations Between Blacks and Jews." He's trying to prove that Jews were at the centre of the slave trade. And it's the Bible, unfortunately, it's become the Bible of the new antisemites. And Professor Henry Gates Jr. the Chair of African American Studies at Harvard, he's very interesting. He said, "It's also a favourite of the far right and you find it on neo-Nazi website." So this is where we're at. I'm not hopeless about it actually, because I think that what we are beginning to see is a, like every revolution, there's a pullback.

And I think we are more and more moving to the more tolerant side of the Labour Party and the more tolerant side of the Torie Party in Britain. But it's something we have to be terribly, terribly aware of. And also, I do think that there is a danger of losing the Jewish element in the Holocaust with things like the proposed Holocaust memorial where the Holocaust is going to stand along with other genocides. Now let me speak very, very carefully. Every genocide is an appalling horror, but you can't lump them all together in one terrible soup and have one terrible holocaust and have one terrible Genocide Day. The Shoah happened for many complicated reasons, not least was European antisemitism, which has its roots in 2,000 years of history. What happened with slavery was appalling, but it has its roots in something else and it's so intellectually spurious to bring them all together. So I'm going to finish on that note. I'm sorry if I got a little overemotional, but it's a subject I feel very, very strongly about.

Q&A and Comments

So let's have a look at the questions quickly.

I know Judy.

Oh, this is funny. Ellen Rothman is saying, "Tony Cliff was married to Chanie Rosenberg, my cousin. Chanie's grandmother who went to South Africa was my grandfather's sister."

Maria's saying, "Palestinian flags are also showing in Ottawa. Traumatizing Jewish things."

Michael says, "I think you're being unfair when you use the word Left. You make it sound dirty. There is nothing wrong with Jews having the views. To me, the Right are more despicable. The Jews are not Holocaust deniers. More right wingers than Left," look Michael, I said very carefully, I'm not talking about the Fascist Right. Of course, the Fascist Right is dangerous and terribly evil. I'm talking about the extreme Left. And I said, "There is nothing wrong with Jews having Liberal views." On the contrary, in fact, many Jews found their homes with the Liberal Left. I'm not talking about the Liberal Left, I'm talking about the extreme Left and the Trotskyite Left. So let me, and if I misspoke, I apologise, but I think most people know what I meant.

Jim Allen's picture looks if he was Tom Stoppard, he looks like Tom Stoppard." It isn't Tom Stoppard, I'm sure of that. I'll check. I'll check, I'll check, I'll check because he is completely out of this if I've made a mistake.

"Hannah Arendt supported segregation in US South and refused to support the Civil Rights Movement, the right to free association and therefore to discrimination, has greater validity than principal equality." Now that is a debate, Monty. I didn't know that. That is an incredible debate.

Yes, Yehuda is saying, "The views and actions of this gallery of the far Left was a betrayal of liberalism." Yes, it's a betrayal of the enlightenment and it's a betrayal of the dream of social justice, I believe. I'm pretty sure she said, "Both Left and Right have anti-Zionist dues. But she today she was going to focus on the Left." Yes. Thank you Maria, for supporting my view.

David says, "Yesterday you named the talk The Seduction of Jews by British society. Today it sounds more like rape." Ah, good point. It was a different England I was talking about, and I'm going on with a much more gentle England. I just needed to finish the three of these talks. "Is Caryl Churchill related to," I think not.

Q: "How can we change the world hatred for Jews in Israel?"

A: A long, slow process of education and for the world to be prepared to listen.

Oh yes. This is the Yehuda, "The map series on the second PSC slide showed map starting with the 1917 Palestine reminds me of the Balfour Project, which demands an apology from the British government, from the Balfour Declaration, and I gather involved tong and sizer. I heard one of its speakers say that 1917 was the beginning. I think think of earlier beginnings like 2,000 years ago or even 3,000." Good point, Yehuda.

Thank you, Rita. Yes, Adele, it is a difficult subject. It's a very painful subject and I've done it in memory of my friend, Robert Wistrich. He was talking about these things. He died in 2014. He was talking about these things in the 80s. And at that time we all thought he was being an extremist. Tragically he wasn't.

"Yes, the Jewish Labour Movement founded in 1903, it's one of the oldest societies associated the Labour Party." Yes. I wasn't knocking the Jewish Labour Movement. Let me be very, very careful here. I'm not knocking Jews who are involved with the Labour Party, okay. Let's be very, very careful. I'm looking at the extreme Left of the Labour Party, which unfortunately, was taken over by Corbyn and his supporters for a while. Ironically, it made them non electable and in the end it was England that turned against them, which is, you know. So there is hope. I really do believe that the average Brit is not an antisemite. And I don't think the average Brit really thinks much about Israel or Palestine.

"It's just that you do have this strand amongst champaign guzzling Islington types," quote, unquote a friend of mine. And it has to an extent entered the Left wing media. The Israeli, this is interesting.

Erica says, "The Palestinians have spent millions on pro-Palestinian propaganda. The Israeli diaspora Jews haven't done enough to counter it." I'm not sure that it's down to the Israelis and I don't know what could be done to counter it actually. It's a long, slow process. I think the problem is it's so deep in Western civilization. That's what you are actually up against.

And then you add to it Howard's mantra, "They can't forgive us for the Holocaust."

Okay, I think we'll stop there. Judy, thank you. I'm sorry I went over time. And I've given too many lectures this week, but I really wanted to continue this. But I'm back tomorrow, but I'm talking about a much softer subject. I'm talking about Benjamin Disraeli, but not about Benjamin Disraeli. I'm talking about the forces that made Benjamin Disraeli, his family, because there is another England, believe me. So take care, everybody.