

# DEFINITIONS OF ANTISEMITISM

## **Considering definitions**

Antisemitism and antisemitic are terms you may have heard, along with various statistics, in media reports. Write down your current understanding of these words. This is your 'working definition' - as you progress through these lessons you can keep it, add to it, or re-write it. There are formal definitions used in various legal, diplomatic, public, social, and political environments. Look at the definition section of the resource pack and think/discuss how this might fit into your initial discussions on tolerance.



Definitions - Antisemitism SJM. https://antisemitism.sydneyjewishmuseum.com.au/definitions/

But what is 'antisemitism'? In short, this term refers to prejudice against Jewish people for no other reason than the fact that they are Jewish. Antisemitism can manifest in many different ways, from overt acts of abuse – either physical, verbal, or psychological – to trading in snide remarks or stereotypes based on deep-seated prejudices.

### To think about:

The definition of antisemitism you adopt affects how you respond to it. Here is a place to start. A working definition has been developed and adopted by many governments around the world through the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), of which Australia is a member.

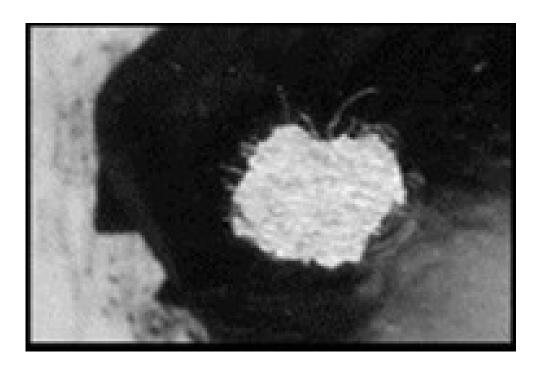


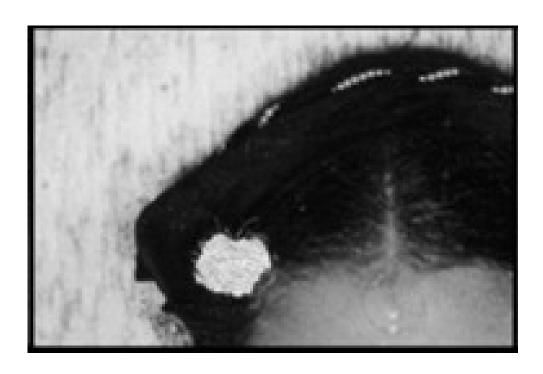
Working Definition of Antisemitism - IHRA. https://holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definition-antisemitism



## The Bigger Picture

Scroll through the photographs one at a time. After each photo discuss what assumptions you made from looking at it.













The first four pictures show sections of a police photograph of Rosa Parks, a black American who was arrested in 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama, USA for refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white man. The final photograph includes the police photograph of Rosa Parks and the U.S. civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. Both were arrested in February 1956, following the Montgomery bus boycott. This was a mass protest against racial segregation that followed Rosa Parks' arrest. Martin Luther King, a Christian minister who stood for non-violent action, was assassinated in 1968.

#### **Discuss:**

What presumptions did you make based solely on the photos?

## Consider:

A lack of knowledge can help fuel misunderstandings and discrimination.

Learning about a topic can help us understand it and be better informed in how we respond.