



TESTIMONIALS for in-person and Zoom presentations of COUNTERING ANTISEMITISM AND HATE

“As Director of a Federation, I have noticed rising antisemitism in my community. This is why we selected Lynne and Harlene, authors of the guidebook “COUNTERING ANTISEMITISM & HATE” to Zoom in to my community, to share the latest insights and strategies to push back safely against antisemitism. The participants, both educators and parents, thought it a very helpful presentation and one attendee said: “ These practical actions give me hope.”

Karen Hochhauser, Executive Director, Jewish Federation of Dutchess County, NY

“Your session on ‘Countering Antisemitism, Bullying and Bias’ was very moving for me. I plan to change my teaching practice as a result. “

Olmond Georges, high school history teacher, Miami, FL

“It was truly wonderful having you at our JCC to address two distinct audiences. The first evening, you spoke to both parents and grandparents in an interactive presentation that left everyone feeling energized, equipped with new strategies to combat antisemitism.

The following morning, our JCC hosted the annual Holocaust Teacher's Professional Development Workshop, where nearly 200 Miami-Dade County Public School teachers gathered. Your presentation to these educators was a perfect blend of actionable tips for addressing anti-bias and antisemitism. The teachers were engaged, and I particularly appreciated how you invited them to share their challenges and reflections. Your insights on the roles of bystanders and Upstanders were both thought-provoking and illuminating.

While the core message was similar, the impact of your presentation on the teachers was especially powerful for me.”

Ann Horenstein, Cultural Arts Director, Alper Jewish Community Center of Miami

TESTIMONIALS FOR THE GUIDEBOOK: COUNTERING ANTISEMITISM

“I think the guide is excellent! It is easy to read, gives a valuable context to October 7th and I like the practical activities that are highlighted to create empathy and build Upstanders in our society. I also liked the way you flowed in prominent Jewish leaders. This certainly would be an excellent resource for our schools and families. Thanks so much for doing this and making it available during a needed time!”

Colleen Tambuscio, Director, Council of Holocaust Educators (NJ Dept. of Education)

“As a parent of two boys, I am grateful to Lynne and Harlene for creating a useful tool kit for pushing back safely against antisemitism and bias. We are using the Guidebook to fortify our kids’ foundation of Jewish pride and identity. The Guidebook will also help my wife and I better prepare them for hate, bias and memes. Knowing that we can practice at home the different strategies to report to a trusted adult, we are ready to create youth Upstanders, ready to stand up and speak out safely for their tribe and their peers.”

Dr. Yonty Friesem, Columbia College professor, Chicago

“We have seen the ugly emergence once again of antisemitism which has had an especially harmful and disturbing impact on our youth. Lynne Azarchi has a strong background in educating our youth on how to respond and combat this threat. Her outstanding workbook with co-author Harlene Galen is a guide that youth, educators and family members can follow. It raises the key issues and presents common sense solutions. I highly recommend this Guidebook for your school, synagogue, JCC or Federation.”

Arlene Ratzabi, Schul librarian, Mamaroneck and Queens synagogues, New York

“The Countering Antisemitism and Hate workbook is an outstanding path to help Jewish youth and families understand the history of Antisemitism, foster Jewish pride and learn strategies to respond to antisemitic incidents. It is an engaging, interactive way for families and classrooms to create a supportive family T.E.A.M. and learn when and how to report incidents. The children were excited to learn how to be an Upstander, not a bystander. Way to go, Lynne and Harlene! We are grateful for your efforts”.

Ellen Kay, Social Action Chair, Temple Beth Israel, York, Pennsylvania

BOOK REVIEW BY JEWISH BOOK COUNCIL- Michal Hoschander Malen

“Unfortunately, in today’s world, we still need ways to fight against the scourge of anti-semitism. Books such as this are important tools for teaching the next generation to understand what they are up against and to offer strategies with which they can fight back.

*In the first section of *Countering Antisemitism & Hate*, authors Lynne Azarchi and Harlene Lichter Galen remind us of the need for action. They emphasize the importance of encouraging young people to strengthen their identities and be proud of who they are, and they urge us to learn from history in order to act effectively and appropriately.*

Other topics include empathy, the need to work together, the philosophy and habit of becoming an upstander, and refusal to look the other way when injustice occurs. Reporting abuse to authorities, using existing laws, and understanding the resources at one’s disposal are all essential tools. The authors examine antisemitic tropes and Holocaust denial and give suggestions about how to handle them when they surface. They also promote positive, preemptive approaches, such as community service, tikkun olam, and fundraising for helpful causes. They weave in personal stories, famous quotes, and graphic diagrams to illustrate their points.

The book also features a list of educational activities that are practical rather than theoretical. Azarchi and Galen discuss in detail identification with Israel, tactics to help one remain calm in moments of crisis, assertive behaviors, and the uses and dangers of social media. They also recommend journaling, and provide a list of educational movies.

This is a useful handbook that will help kids and their families make sense of a confusing world. It will instill in readers the confidence they need to continue to navigate daily life.”

**** Michal Hoschander Malen is the editor of Jewish Book Council’s young adult and children’s book reviews. A former librarian, she has lectured on topics relating to literacy, run book clubs, and loves to read aloud to her grandchildren.*

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