



ANTI-SEMITISM IN AMERICA 2002

Highlights from a May 2002 Survey
Conducted by the Marttila Communications Group and
SWR Worldwide for the Anti-Defamation League
Including Poll Results from 1992 and 1998

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Methodology

Over the past ten years, the Marttila Communications Group -- a Boston-based public opinion research firm -- has conducted three national surveys (1992, 1998 and 2002) for the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) to measure and monitor levels of anti-Semitism in the United States.

In this latest survey, conducted jointly with the polling firm of SWR Worldwide, 1,000 Americans age 18 and older were interviewed on the evenings of April 26 - May 6, 2002, by trained professionals working from a central, monitored location.

Respondents were selected from all American households using a random probability sampling procedure which included unlisted telephone numbers. An oversample of 300 African-Americans and 300 Hispanic-Americans was carried out to increase the reliability of the results obtained within these important subgroups; Hispanics were also given the opportunity to be interviewed in Spanish. The margin of error in a poll of this size is plus or minus three percent, but is higher for subgroups (the margins of error for the African-American and Hispanic-American samples, for example, are plus or minus 5.7%).

In addition, *for the first time this year*, two additional surveys were conducted among 800 college students and 500 college faculty to measure anti-Semitic propensities on U.S. college campuses. Interviews with college undergraduates were conducted between April 26 - May 3, 2002. Interviews with college undergraduate faculty were conducted between May 1-31, 2002. The margin of error in the student survey is plus or minus 3.4%; the margin of error in the faculty survey is plus or minus 4.4%.

2002 ADL Poll Context

The most recent ADL polls of the general public, college students and college faculty were conducted in April and May of 2002.

The terrorist attacks of September 11th were still fresh in the minds of the American people and the United States' war on terrorism continued to be front-page news throughout the country.

The violence in the Middle East, which had been going on for more than a year, had reached a particularly dangerous moment with a series of suicide bombings in Israel. In response, the Israeli military had begun sending its troops into Palestinian territories on a regular basis. One of Israel's most widely publicized military actions -- in the town of Jenin on the West Bank - - had just been completed when the ADL survey commenced.

According to the 2002 ADL polling results, a majority of Americans (59%) had come to believe that the United States had entered "a new and dangerous era" as a result of the events of September 11th. Most (68%) said they believed there would be another major terrorist attack against the United States within the year.

The explosive events in the Middle East were very much on the minds of the American people. Nearly three-quarters (71%) of Americans said they were following events in the region, with a third saying they were paying very close attention to the escalating Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The Anti-Semitism Index

To provide an analytic tool for identifying which Americans have a propensity to be more prejudiced toward Jews, all three national surveys conducted over the past ten years (1992, 1998 and 2002) have relied upon an anti-Semitism index developed for ADL nearly 40 years ago.

The index was developed and first used in conjunction with a 1964 ADL survey conducted by researchers at the University of California. The index assigns respondents to one of three categories based on the number of times they agree with 11 statements made about American Jews. These 11 statements are included within a longer list of statements about Jews.

While there have been slight changes over the years in the wording of the 11 statements to keep them relevant and contemporary, the basic structure of the index has been retained throughout all three national surveys.

In 2002, as in 1992 and 1998, respondents are grouped as follows:

- 1) **Not Anti-Semitic:** People who agree with none or one of the statements are considered essentially free of prejudicial attitudes toward the Jewish community.
- 2) **Middle:** People who agree with between two and five of the statements are considered to be neither prejudiced nor unprejudiced -- that is, not completely prejudice-free in their attitudes toward Jews, but not an audience to be deeply worried about.
- 3) **Most Anti-Semitic:** The people who agree with six or more of the statements are considered the most anti-Semitic group of Americans, and have been isolated for special analysis and demographic identification.

The 11 statements that constitute the index are listed on the following page. While at least one or two of the statements are arguably ambiguous in their nature, they have been included in the current study because they have been part of the research since 1964.

No public opinion index is a perfect tool for measuring accurately a phenomenon as complex as anti-Semitism. The real purpose of the index is

in its role as a social sleuth -- to help identify those demographic groups which have a propensity to hold more anti-Semitic views than the public at large. In other words, the index is most useful in answering the question, "Which groups of Americans tend to be anti-Semitic?" rather than the question, "How many Americans are anti-Semitic?" In this context, the index has been highly successful in identifying those demographic groups most likely to hold anti-Semitic views and uncovering the underlying beliefs that foster anti-Semitism.

Index Statements

The index statements, which are included within a longer list of positive and neutral statements about Jews, are introduced to respondents as follows: "I am going to read a list of statements about Jews. For each one, please tell me whether you think that statement is probably true or probably false."

The following are the 11 statements that constitute the anti-Semitism index. As noted earlier, agreement with 0-1 of these statements is considered "not anti-Semitic," agreement with 2-5 statements is considered "middle," and agreement with 6-11 statements is considered "most anti-Semitic."

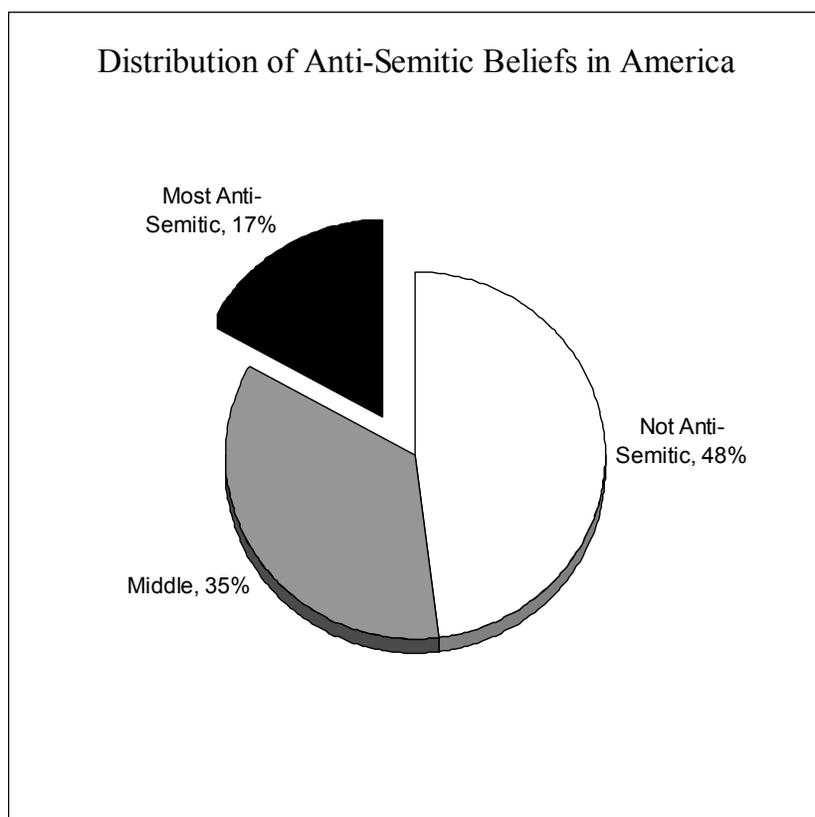
- 1) Jews stick together more than other Americans.
- 2) Jews always like to be at the head of things.
- 3) Jews are more loyal to Israel than America.
- 4) Jews have too much power in the U.S. today.
- 5) Jews have too much control and influence on Wall Street.
- 6) Jews have too much power in the business world.
- 7) Jews have a lot of irritating faults.
- 8) Jews are more willing than others to use shady practices to get what they want.
- 9) Jewish businesspeople are so shrewd that others don't have a fair chance at competition.
- 10) Jews don't care what happens to anyone but their own kind.
- 11) Jews are [not] just as honest as other businesspeople.

I. ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE UNITED STATES

Anti-Semitic propensities have increased in the United States since 1998, reversing a steady decline in anti-Jewish feeling in the U.S. over the past ten years.

During the past year, there has been a significant amount of news coverage about increased anti-Semitism throughout Europe and the Arab world. Also reported have been specific acts of anti-Semitism in the United States. Many reporters and analysts have speculated that anti-Semitic feelings in the U.S. may have increased during this period of global upheaval.

The 2002 ADL survey confirms that there has been an increase in anti-Semitic propensities in the U.S. since 1998. In 2002, 17% of Americans -- or approximately 35 million adults -- hold views about Jews which are unquestionably anti-Semitic. This compares to 12% who fell into the most anti-Semitic category in 1998 and 20% in 1992 (an earlier ADL survey conducted in 1964 found 29% of Americans to hold anti-Semitic views).

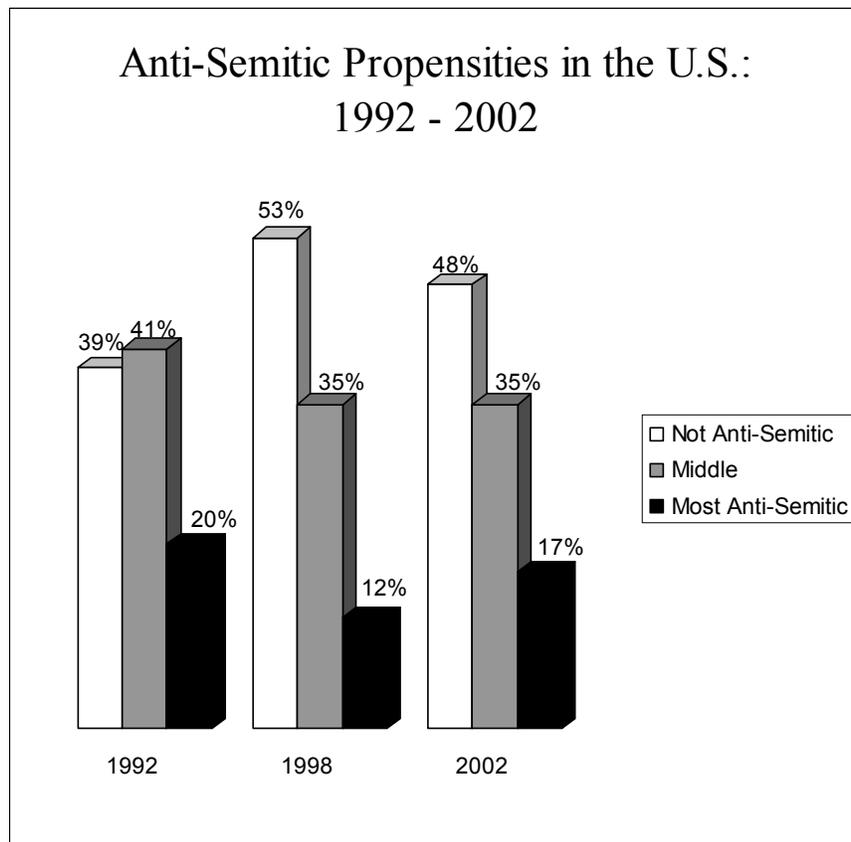


The 2002 increase can be explained by two factors: a slight increase in anti-Semitic propensities among whites (9% in 1998 to 12% in 2002) and a more sophisticated analysis since 1998 of anti-Semitic propensities in the Hispanic community.

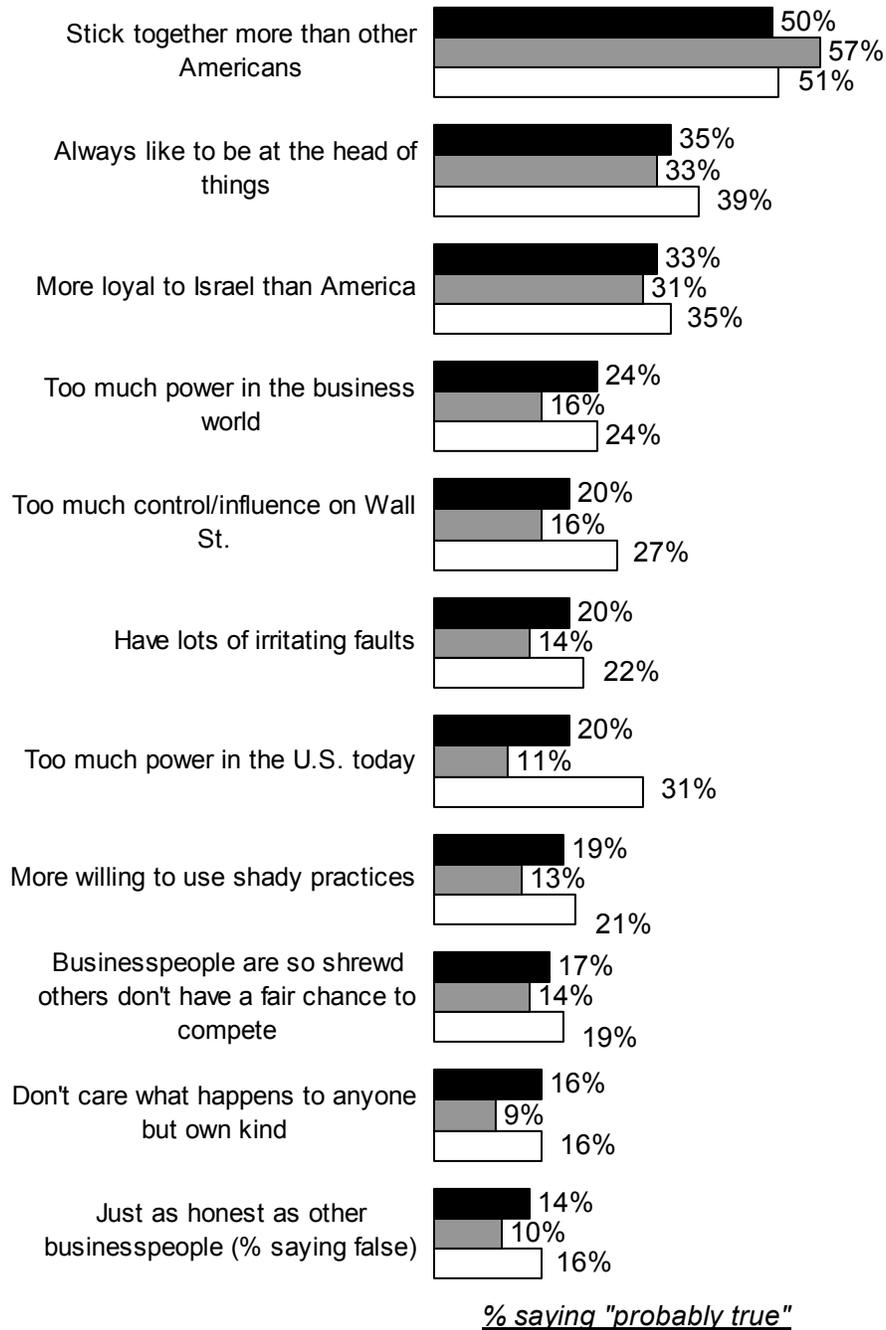
New research conducted by ADL in 2001 uncovered -- for the first time -- that Hispanic-Americans who were born outside of the U.S. are much more likely to hold anti-Semitic views than Hispanics born in the United States.

This new information about higher levels of anti-Semitism among foreign-born Hispanics means that levels of anti-Semitism reported in 1998 were probably somewhat understated. This is because the ADL researchers at the time were not fully aware of the striking differences in attitudes between U.S.-born and foreign-born Hispanics.

In 2002, as a result of the insights gained from the 2001 research, more sophisticated screening and sampling was done to ensure an appropriate mix of U.S.-born (37%) and foreign-born (63%) Hispanics. In addition, Hispanics were given the opportunity to be interviewed in Spanish.



Responses to the Anti-Semitism Index: 1992-2002



1992
 1998
 2002

Positive Images of Jews

While there has been an increase in levels of anti-Semitism in the United States, it should be emphasized that more than 80% of Americans fall into the "not anti-Semitic" or "middle" categories, with nearly half of all Americans (48%) essentially free of prejudicial attitudes toward Jewish Americans.

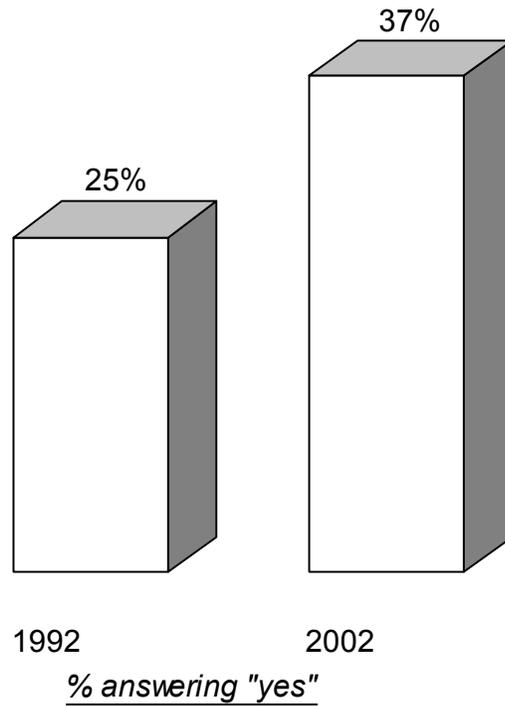
As mentioned earlier in this report, the 11 Anti-Semitism Index statements were included within a longer list of positive and neutral statements about Jews. While much of this report focuses on negative stereotypes about Jews, it is important to point out that an overwhelming majority of Americans accept virtually all of the positive statements about Jews that were presented in the 2002 survey. It is significant that none of the negative statements are accepted as widely as the positive statements.

For example, 80% of Americans surveyed in 2002 believe that Jews place a strong emphasis on the importance of family life; 69% believe that Jews have contributed much to the cultural life of America; and 58% believe that because of their own history of fighting discrimination, Jews have a special commitment to social justice and civil rights. In addition, 53% believe that Jews have played a vital role in making sure the U.S. is a positive, moral force in world affairs.

Concern about Rising Anti-Semitism

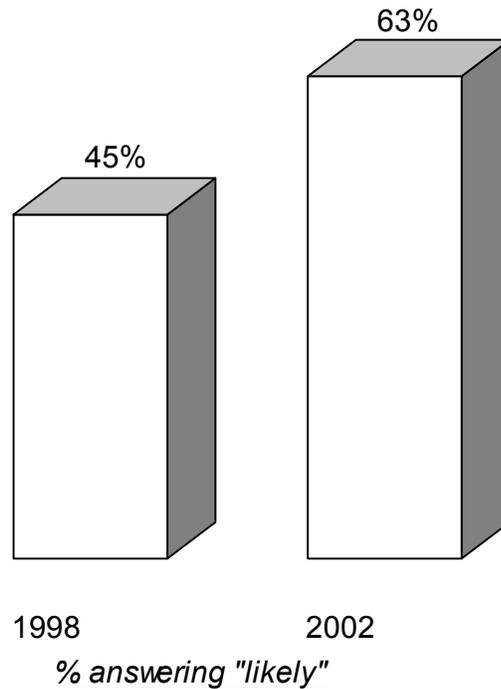
Reporting of anti-Semitic incidents in the U.S. and around the world has clearly had an impact upon American attitudes. When asked whether there is more, less or about the same amount of anti-Jewish feeling in America today as there was ten years ago, 22% of Americans say there is more. This is nearly double the response from 1998, when only 11% of Americans said there was more anti-Jewish feeling in America.

Do you see any possibility of an increase in anti-Jewish feeling around the country in the next few years?



Further, 37% of Americans say they see a possibility of an increase in anti-Jewish feeling around the country in the next few years, an increase of 12% from 1992 -- the last time this question was asked.

How likely do you think it is that there could be a serious increase in anti-Jewish feeling around the world in the next few years?



While Americans are concerned about rising anti-Semitism in the U.S., they are even more concerned about an increase in anti-Jewish feeling around the world. In response to the question "How likely do you think it is that there could be a serious increase in anti-Jewish feeling around the world in the next few years," 63% said they felt such an increase in global anti-Semitism was likely. When this question was last asked in 1998, only 45% saw a potential for an increase in anti-Jewish feelings around the world.

According to the 2002 poll results, a majority of Americans believe that the United States has entered a dangerous new era in the country's history. Clearly, Americans foresee an increase in religious and ethnic tensions as part of this new era.

II. THE IMPACT OF EDUCATION

Less educated Americans continue to be more likely to hold anti-Semitic views.

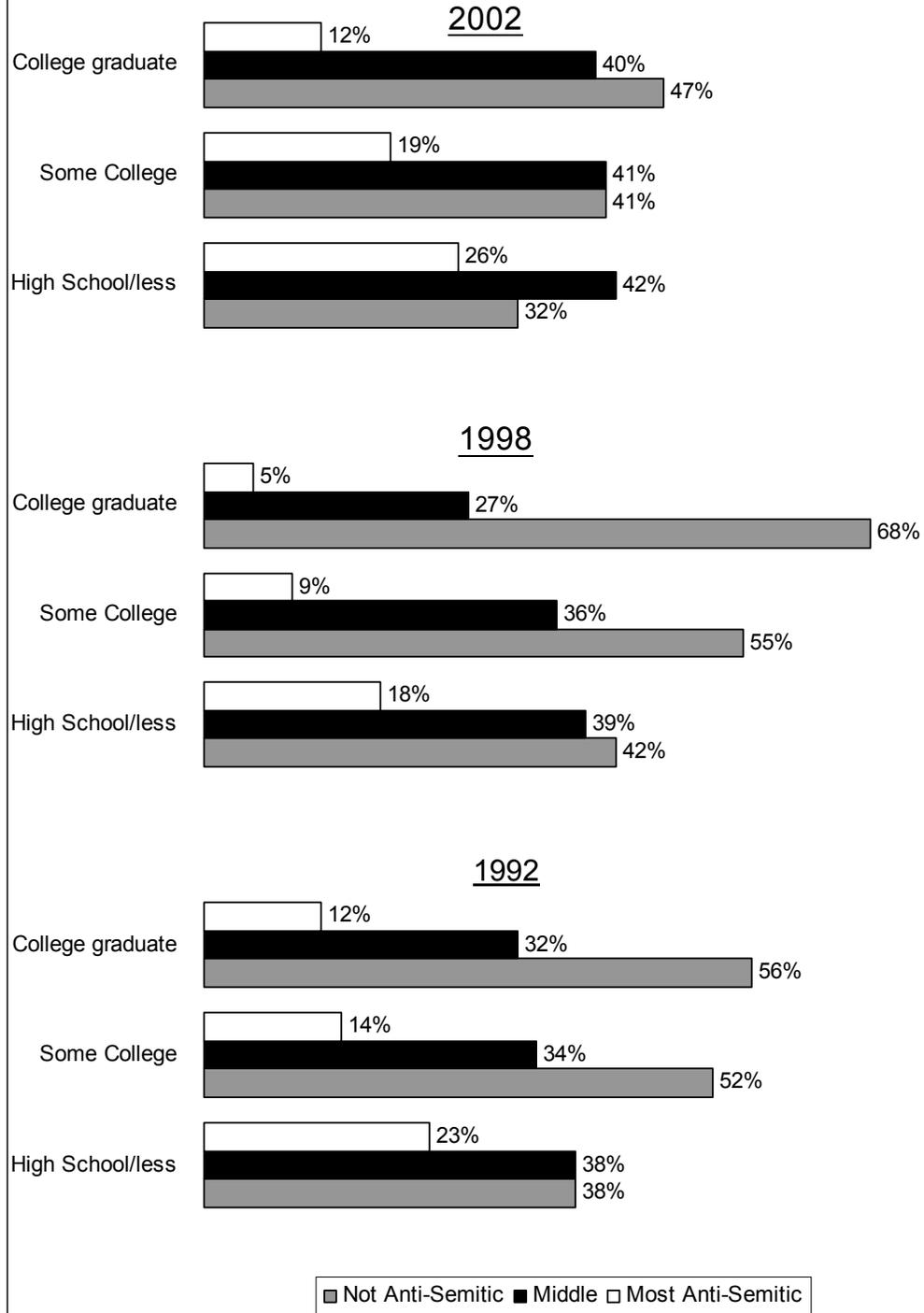
A regression analysis of the 2002 survey results confirms one of the most important findings from the 1992 and 1998 surveys: that education is a very strong predictor of anti-Semitism. Simply put, the more educated a person is, the less likely he or she is to accept anti-Semitic beliefs.

For example, only about one-in-ten (12%) college graduates and those with postgraduate degrees falls into the most anti-Semitic category, while nearly one-in-four (23%) high school graduates is in the most anti-Semitic group.

As a person's educational level increases, his or her tendency to hold anti-Semitic views decreases by 15%.

As further evidence of the positive impact of education, anti-Semitic propensities among college students and faculty members were found in 2002 to be the lowest of any demographic cohort studied during ADL's ten years of research on the topic.

Education Remains Major Driver of Anti-Semitic Propensities



III. PERCEPTIONS OF JEWISH POWER

Stereotypes about Jewish power in the U.S. have replaced many of the classic ethical stereotypes previously attributed to Jewish Americans and are now fostering anti-Semitic beliefs.

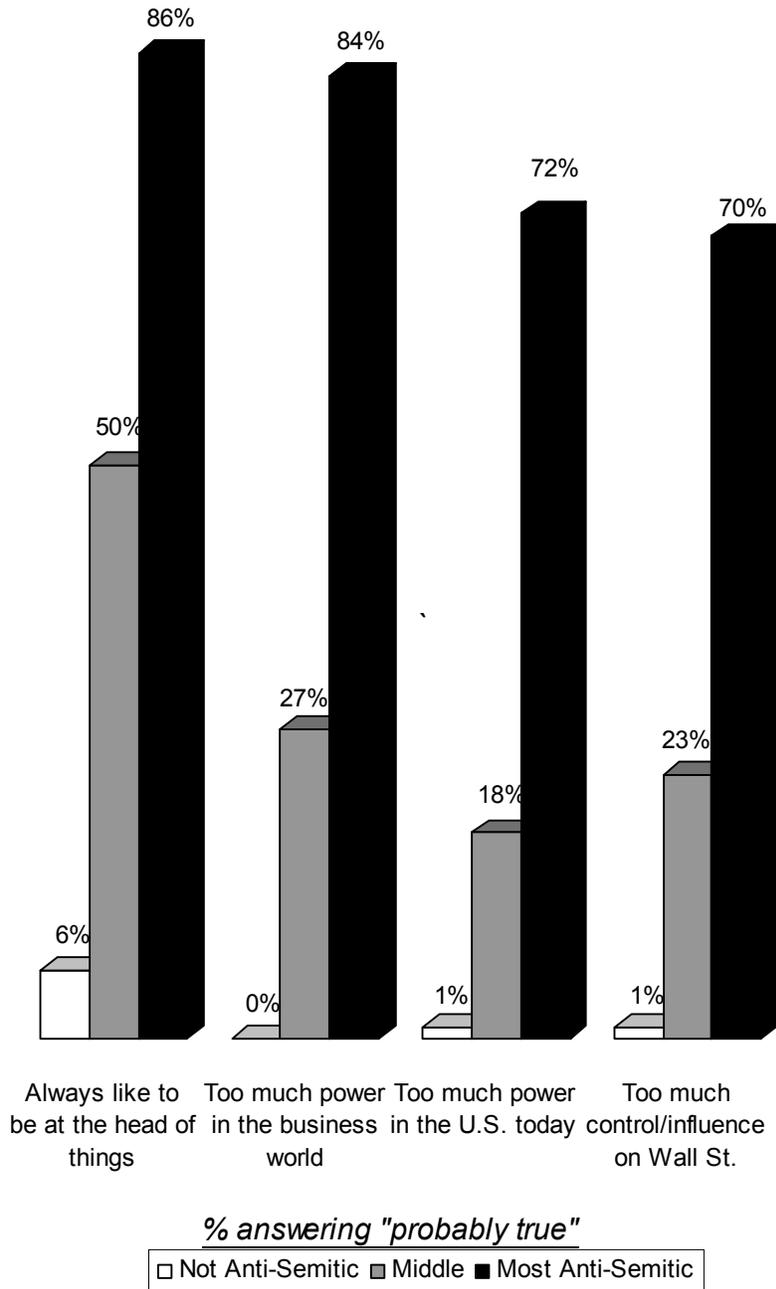
When ADL first began polling the American public about issues of anti-Semitism in 1964, the predominant negative stereotypes about Jews dealt with issues of honesty and business ethics. Over time, these traditional stereotypes have been rejected by most Americans and replaced by concerns about Jewish power in the U.S.

In the 2002 survey, 20% of Americans said they agreed with the statement: "Jews have too much power in the U.S. today." This is an increase of 4% from a national survey conducted in 2001, and a 9% increase from the 1998 survey. Nearly three-quarters (72%) of those who fall into the most anti-Semitic category believe that Jews have too much power in the U.S. today.

Similarly, more Americans appear to be concerned about the power Jews hold in the business world. In 2002, nearly a quarter of all Americans (24%) said they agreed with the statement: "Jews have too much power in the business world." This is an increase of 3% since 2001 and 8% since 1998. African-Americans and Hispanic-Americans are nearly twice as likely to agree with this proposition.

The regression analysis of the 2002 data also confirms that concerns about Jewish power have become key drivers of contemporary anti-Semitic beliefs in the United States. The analysis shows that if a person believes that Jewish Americans have too much power in the U.S., his or her propensity to be anti-Semitic increases by 17%.

The Most Anti-Semitic are Most Concerned with Issues of Jewish Power



IV. OPINIONS OF ISRAEL AND U.S. POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Negative attitudes toward Israel and concerns that American Jews have too much influence over U.S. Middle East policy are emerging as factors responsible for fostering anti-Semitic beliefs.

One of the more important findings from the analyses of the 1992 and 1998 ADL surveys was that Americans' opinions about Israel did not appear to affect their attitudes toward Jews.

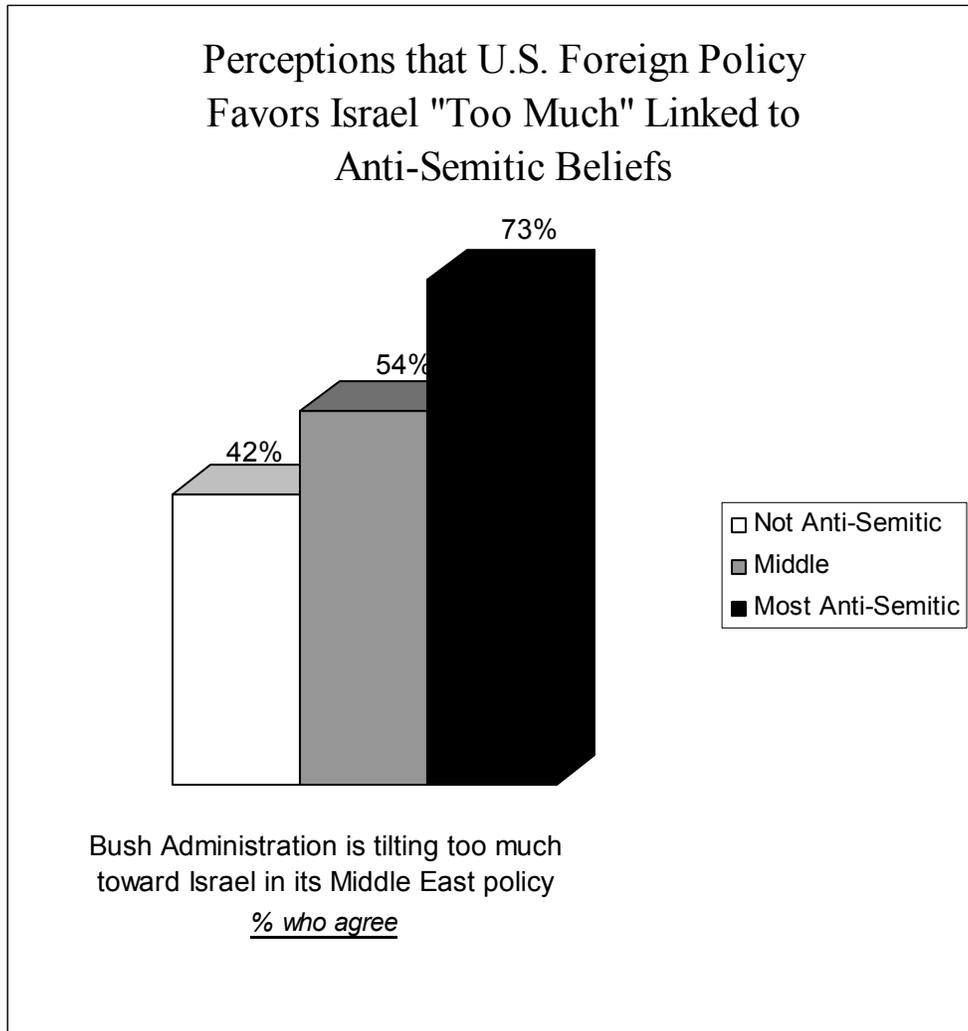
For example, the previous polling -- conducted during two contentious moments in the U.S.-Israeli relationship -- found that upper-educated Americans were highly critical of the Israeli governments at that time. However, these upper-educated Americans were also the least anti-Semitic of all Americans. For this leadership cohort, critical judgments about Israel did not have any influence on their feelings about Jews.

Further, the in-depth analyses of the 1992 and 1998 data found that critical judgments about Israel did not foster anti-Semitic beliefs among Americans in general, even among those who fell into the most anti-Semitic category. The most anti-Semitic Americans have always been more critical of the Israeli government, but the previous analyses revealed that these negative feelings about Israel were a consequence of their anti-Semitic beliefs rather than a cause of them.

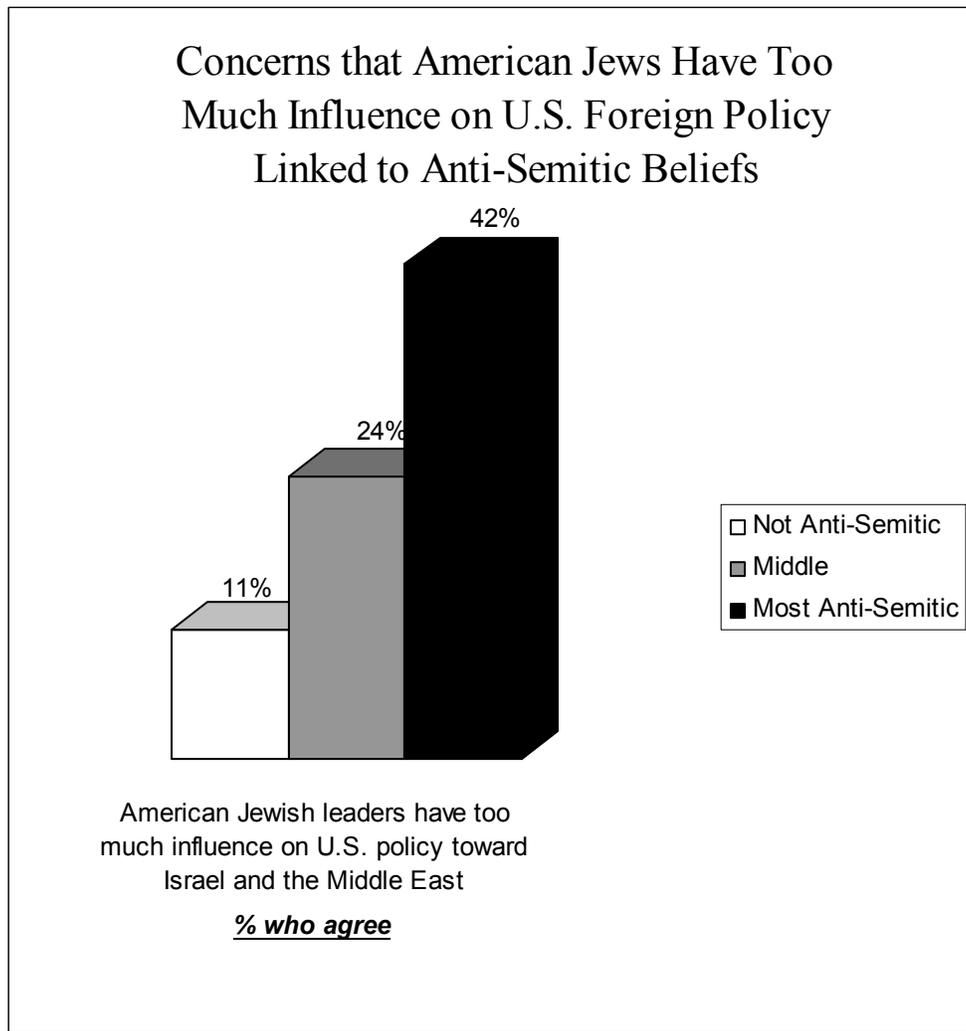
The 2002 survey tells a different story. The regression analysis reveals that - - for the first time -- attitudes toward Israel are actually fostering anti-Semitic beliefs among some Americans.

Those Americans who believe that Jews have too much influence over U.S. policy in the Middle East, that U.S. policy tilts too much toward Israel, that the U.S. is more likely to be targeted for a terrorist attack because of American support, and who see increased anti-Jewish activity around the country and the world, have a significantly greater likelihood of falling into the most anti-Semitic category. This analysis is illustrated by the following key poll results:

- On whether the Bush administration has been tilting too much toward Israel in its Middle East policies, slightly more than half of Americans (51%) said the U.S. has been tilting too much toward Israel while three-quarters of the most anti-Semitic Americans (73%) said they felt this way.

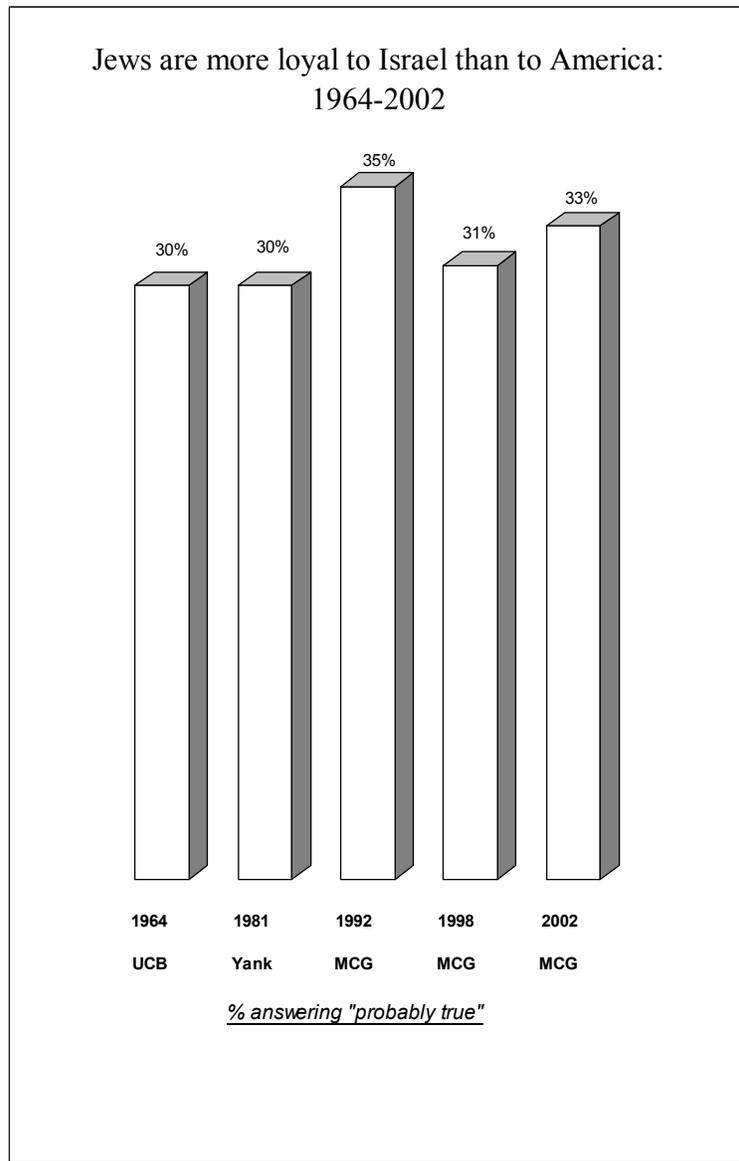


- And, on one of the key analytic findings that emerged from the 2002 survey, as a driver of anti-Semitic beliefs, the most anti-Semitic Americans were four times as likely (42%) to believe that American Jewish leaders have too much influence over U.S. foreign policy than Americans holding non anti-Semitic beliefs (11%).



One of the most remarkable findings in the 40 years of ADL research on this topic -- and one of the most telling indicators of anti-Jewish prejudice in the United States -- has been the question of fundamental Jewish loyalty to the U.S. When this question was first asked in 1964, 30% of Americans said they believed that Jews were more loyal to Israel than to America.

There has been very little variation over the years, with 30% of Americans questioning Jewish loyalty to the U.S. in 1981, 35% in 1992, 31% in 1998, and 31% percent in 2001. In 2002, as in previous years, a third of Americans (33%) said they believe Jews are more loyal to Israel than to the United States.



However, a much larger percentage of people who fall into the most anti-Semitic categories believe that American Jews are more loyal to Israel than to the U.S. In the 2002 survey, nearly three-quarters (74%) of the most anti-Semitic Americans believe this to be the case, while only 7% of the least anti-Semitic Americans accept this assertion.

V. ATTITUDES OF HISPANIC-AMERICANS

Hispanic-Americans born outside of the U.S. are much more likely than other Hispanics and other Americans to hold anti-Semitic views.

In both this survey, which included an oversample of 300 Hispanics, and a previous 2001 survey of 1,000 Hispanic-Americans also conducted by ADL, a portrait of two very different Hispanic communities emerges, each holding very different views of Jews and tolerance in general.

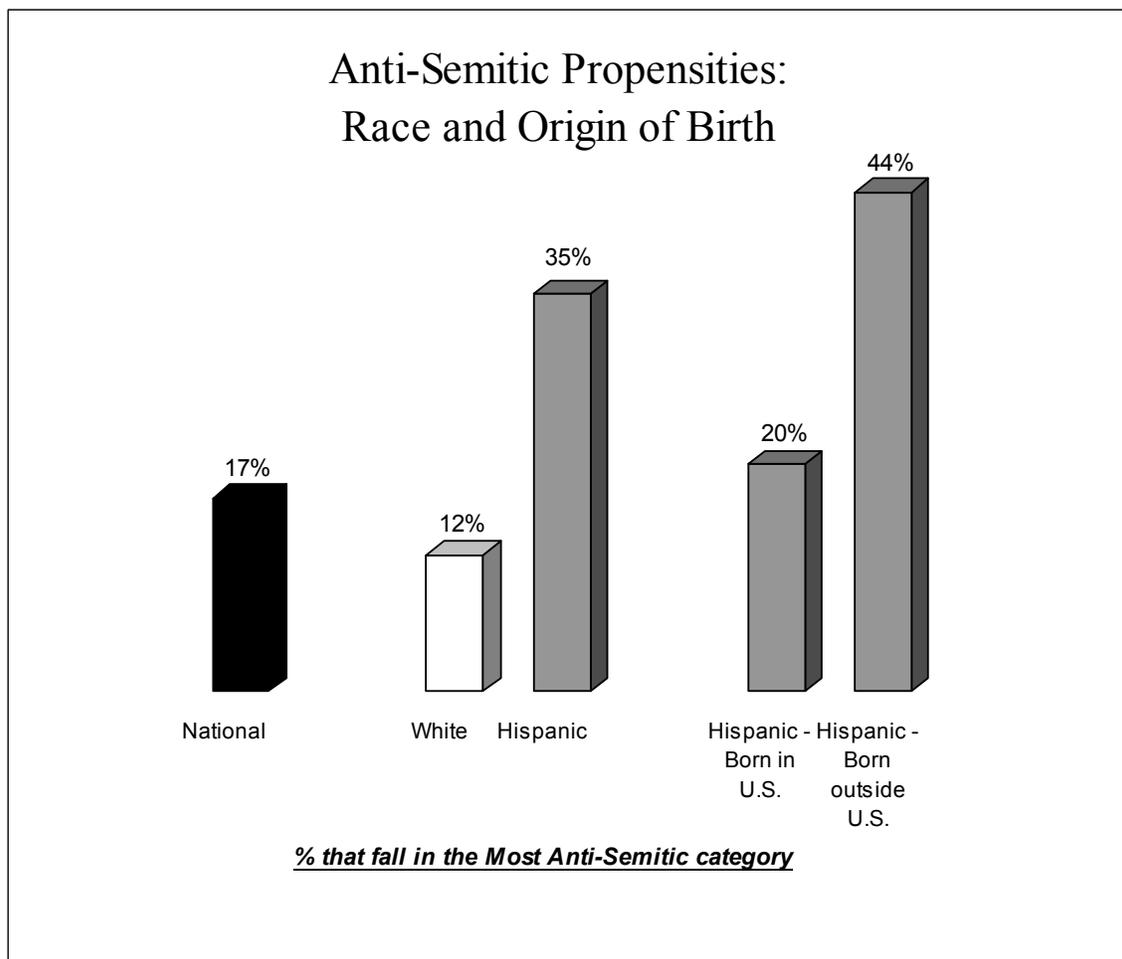
The first community is made up of those born in the United States, the second of foreign-born Hispanics. In total, 37% of Hispanics were born in the U.S., while 63% were born in other countries.

There are significant differences in the characteristics of the two communities. Some of these differences include:

- Seventy-eight percent of foreign-born Hispanics speak Spanish at home compared to 20% of those born in the United States. Not surprisingly, over half (54%) of these foreign-born Hispanics receive their news from Spanish language sources.
- A quarter of foreign-born Hispanics have never attended high school, compared to 5% of Hispanics born in the U.S.
- Half of foreign-born Hispanics attend church at least once a week, compared to 38% of U.S.-born Hispanics.

Forty-four percent of foreign-born Hispanics fall into the most anti-Semitic category, while only 20% of Hispanics born in the U.S. fall into this category. As a result, it is only foreign-born Hispanics whose anti-Semitic propensities are significantly above the national average (44% vs. 17%). The anti-Semitic propensities of U.S.-born Hispanics are only slightly above the national average (20% vs. 17%).

It is encouraging to note that once Hispanics have been assimilated into the U.S. population, their attitudes about Jews appear to change significantly.



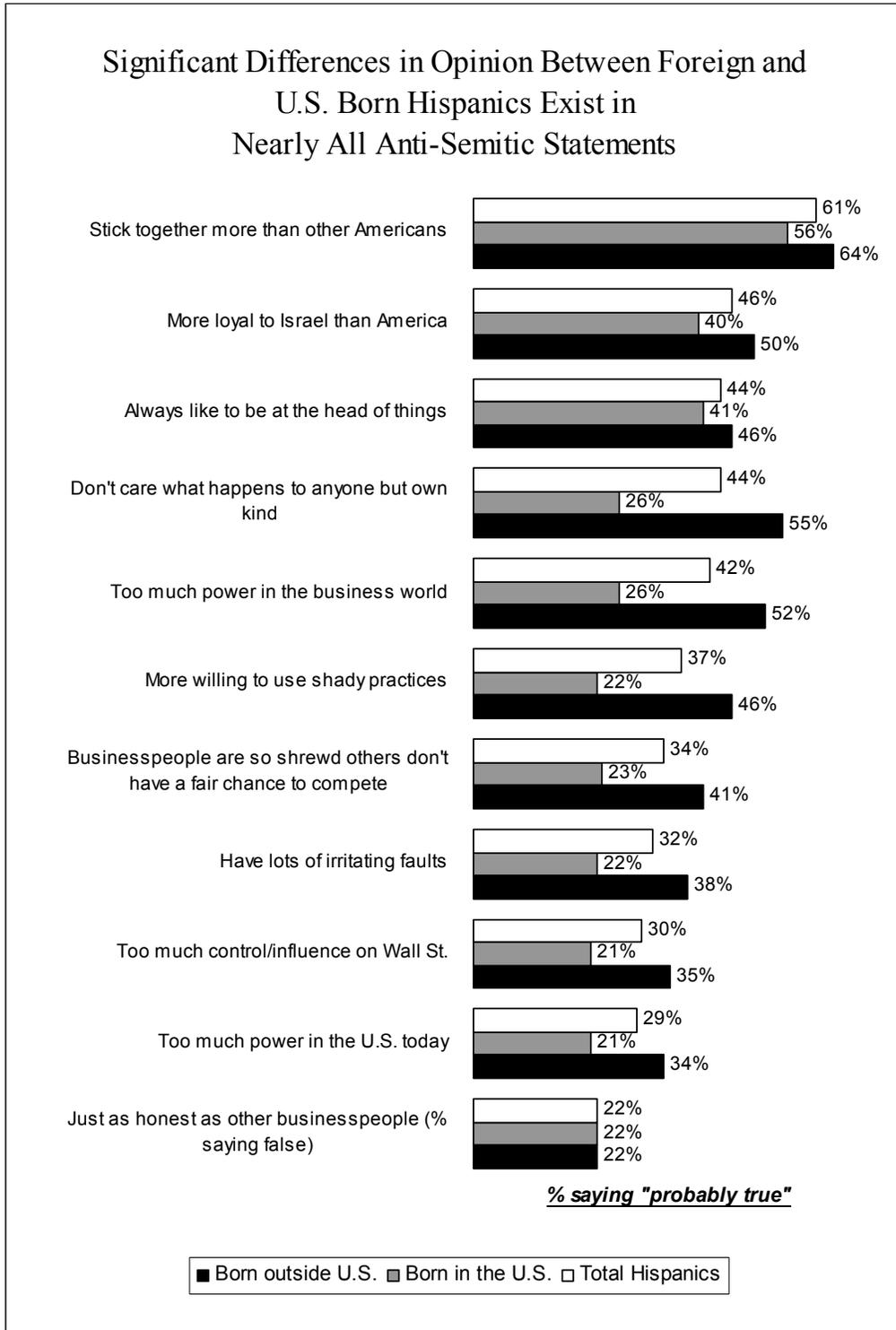
Perceptions regarding Jewish control, influence and power as well as more traditional canards about Jews, religion and ethical practices appear to be driving anti-Semitism among foreign-born Hispanics.

For example, over half of foreign-born Hispanics (55%) agree with the assertion that "Jews don't care what happens to anyone but their own kind," compared to 26% of Hispanics born in the U.S.

Forty-four percent of Hispanics born outside of the U.S. agree with the assertion that "Jews were responsible for the death of Christ," compared to 26% of those born in the U.S.

Forty-six percent agree with the statement that Jews are "more willing than others to use shady practices to get what they want," compared to 22% of those born in the U.S.

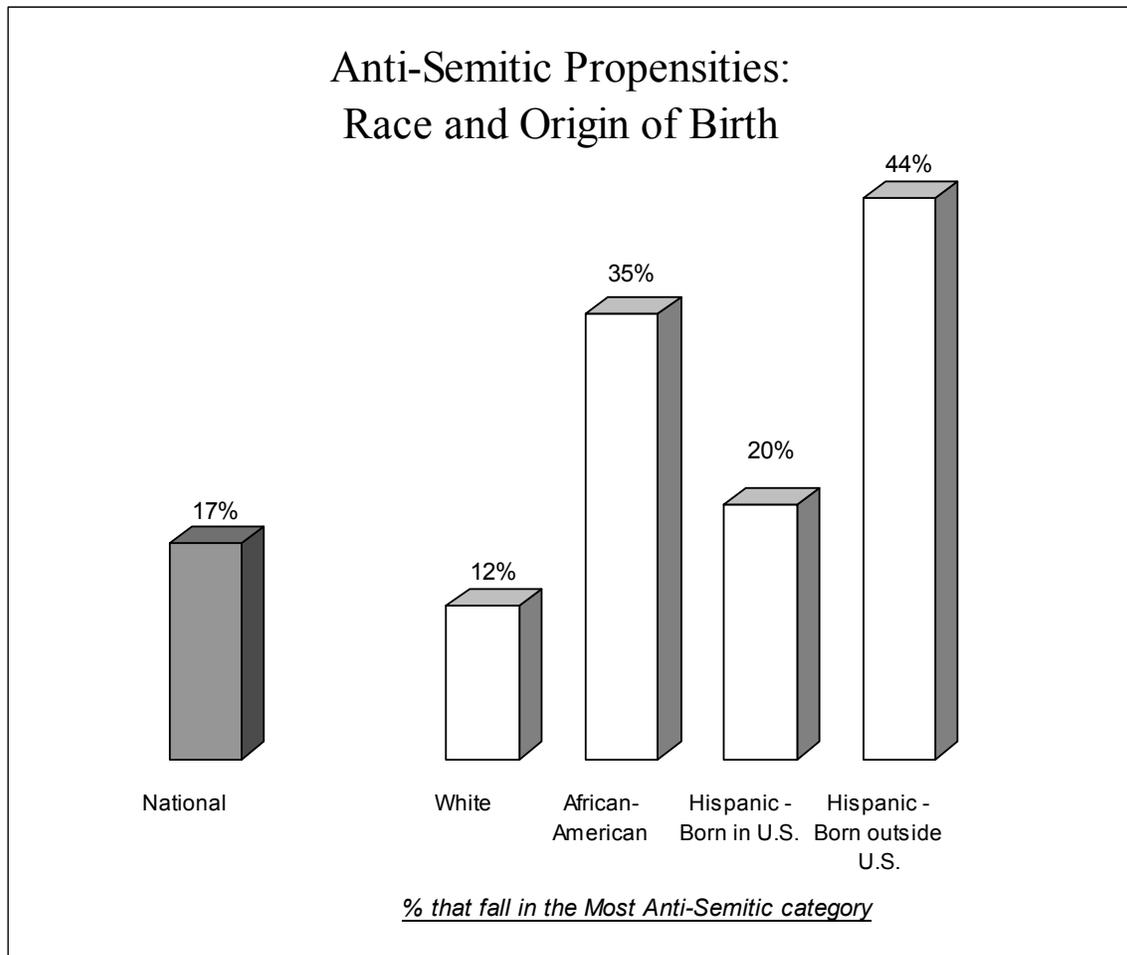
Finally, over half (52%) of foreign-born Hispanics believe Jews have too much power in the business world, compared to 26% of Hispanics born in the U.S.



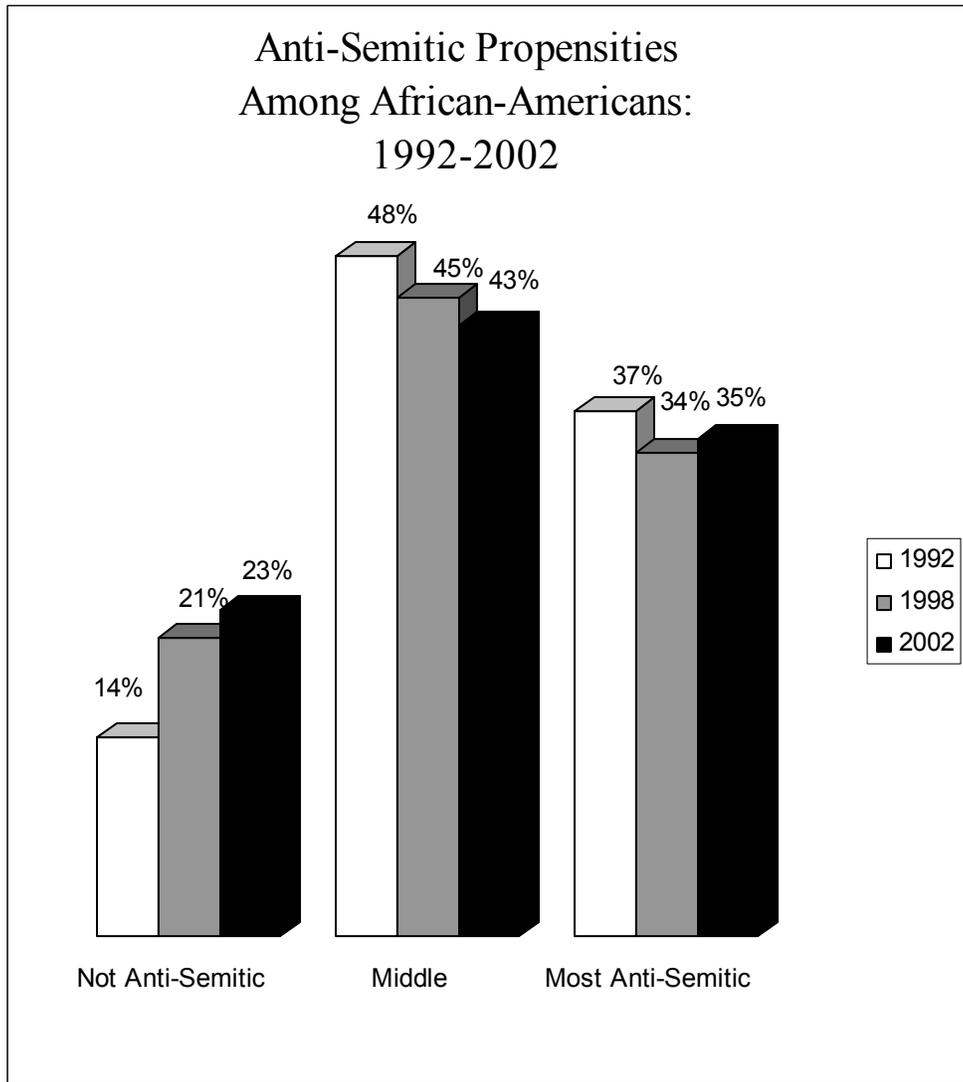
VI. ATTITUDES OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS

Anti-Semitic propensities among African-Americans, while still high, have remained stable since 1992.

The 2002 survey confirms the results of the 1992 and 1998 research: that African-Americans remain considerably more likely than whites to hold anti-Semitic beliefs. In the 2002 survey, blacks are nearly three times (35%) more likely than whites (12%) to fall into the most anti-Semitic category.



While there has been a near doubling in the number of African-Americans who fall within the "not anti-Semitic" category since 1992 (14% in 1992 to 23% in 2002), the number of African-Americans who fall into the most anti-Semitic category has remained stable since 1992.



At the same time, however, the 2002 polling makes clear that as education increases, African-Americans -- like other Americans -- become more tolerant. For example, when asked to respond to the statement, "books that contain dangerous ideas should be banned from public libraries," 60% of blacks with only a high school education agreed with this statement, while only 40% of college-educated blacks agreed. On the statement, "I do not

have much in common with people of other races," 24% of high school-educated blacks agreed with this statement, while only 8% of college-educated blacks did. Finally, on the statement, "AIDS might be God's punishment for immoral sexual behavior," 43% of high-school educated blacks agreed. Among college-educated blacks, only 26% agreed.

VII. ANTI-SEMITISM AND INTOLERANCE

There is a high correlation between anti-Semitic beliefs and intolerance generally.

The 2002 survey reaffirms one of the most important findings from the 1992 and 1998 surveys -- that there is a strong correlation between anti-Semitism and intolerance generally. Americans who fall into the most anti-Semitic category are much more likely to embrace a series of intolerant propositions than those Americans who fall into the least anti-Semitic categories.

Americans who are most likely to have negative attitudes toward Jews are also much more likely than the rest of the population to hold intolerant beliefs about other groups, including immigrants, gays and people of other racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds.

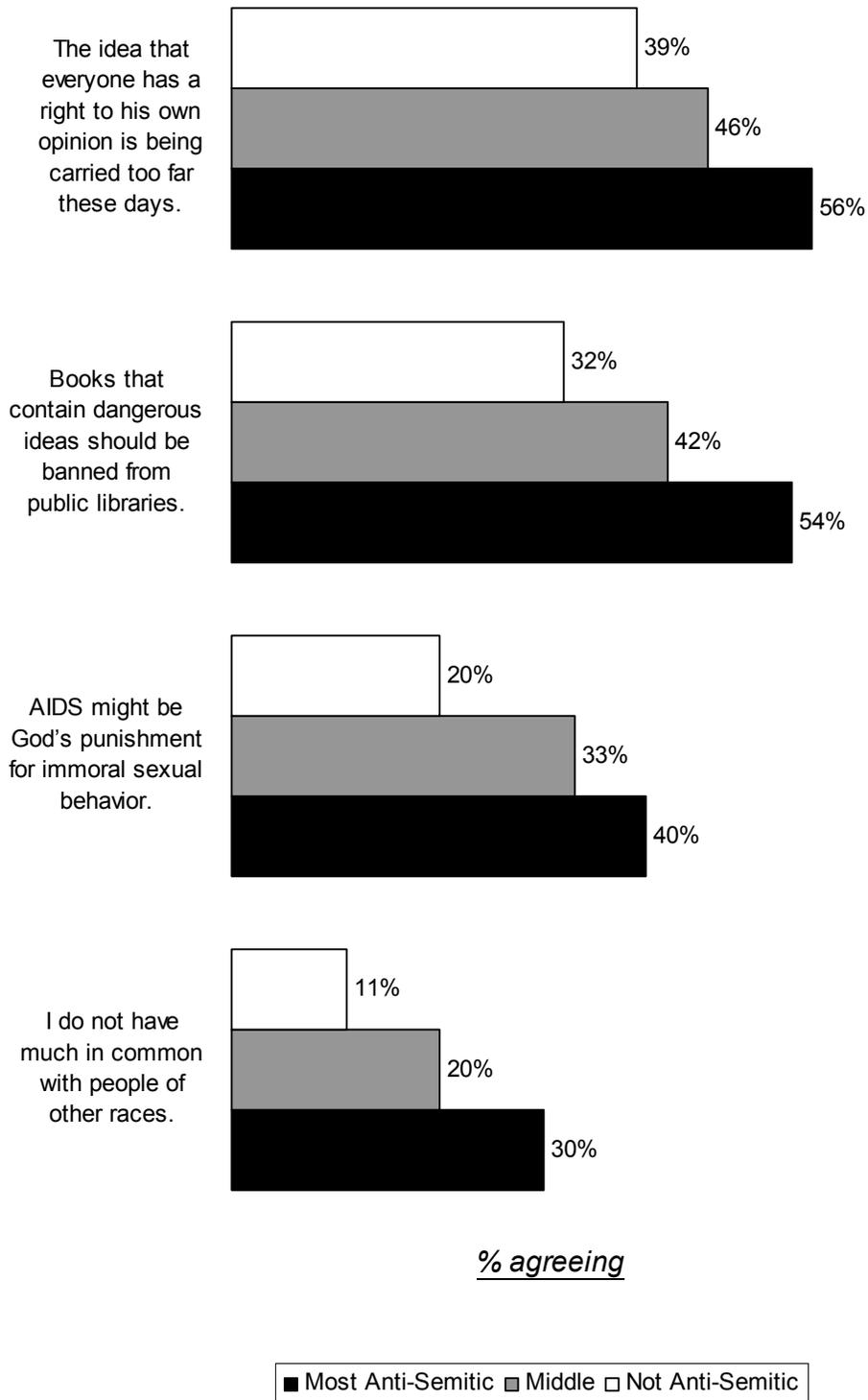
Thus, anti-Semitic propensities are often much more likely to flow from inner beliefs -- an individual's basic values or view of the world -- than from external events, such as an economic downturn.

Americans who fall into the most anti-Semitic category are twice as likely (40%) as the least anti-Semitic Americans (20%) to agree with the statement: "AIDS might be God's punishment for immoral sexual behavior."

The most anti-Semitic Americans are also three times as likely (30%) than the least anti-Semitic Americans (11%) to agree with the statement: "I do not have much in common with people of other races."

Finally, the most anti-Semitic Americans are nearly twice as likely (54%) as the least anti-Semitic Americans (32%) to agree with the statement: "Books that contain dangerous ideas should be banned from public libraries."

Intolerance on Issues of Speech, Sexual Behavior and Race are Linked to Anti-Semitic Beliefs

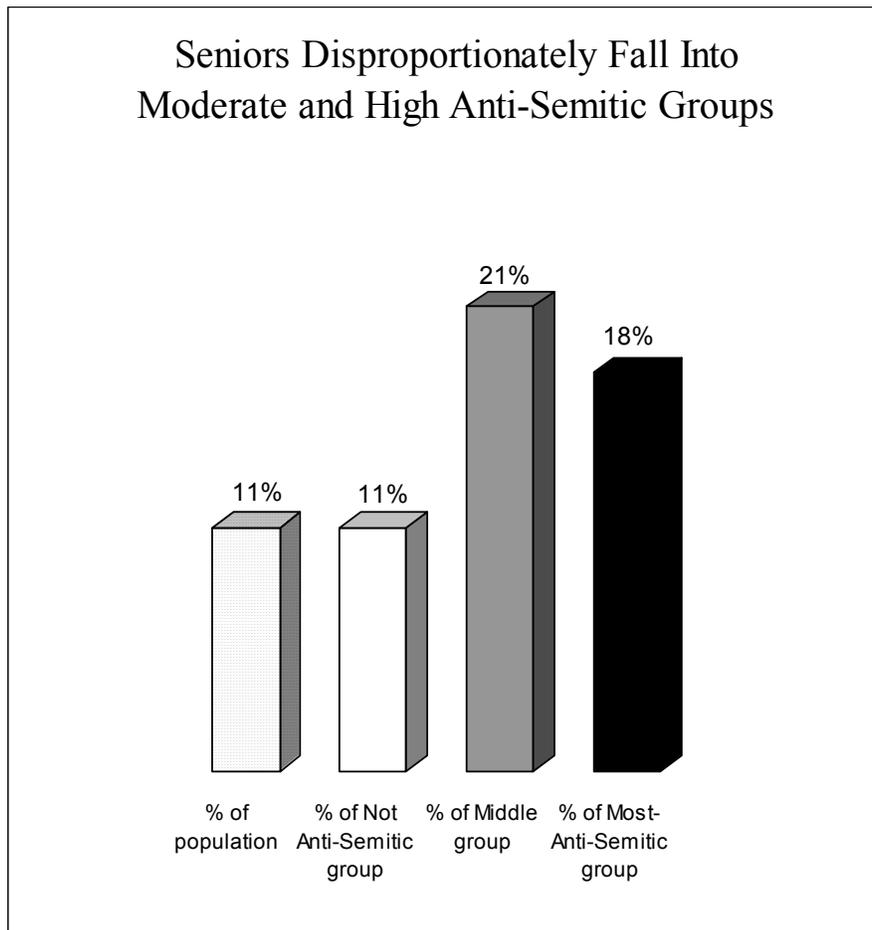


VIII. ANTI-SEMITISM AND AGE

Age continues to be a slight predictor of anti-Semitic propensities, but is much less of a factor in 2002.

In the 1992 and 1998 surveys, age was one of the most important predictors of anti-Semitic beliefs, with Americans over the age of 65 twice as likely as those under 65 to fall into the most anti-Semitic category. However, the 2002 survey results reveals that age is much less of a factor today than it was in 1992 and 1998.

The current survey shows that adults over 65 remain more likely to fall into the most anti-Semitic category but by substantially lesser margins than they did in 1992 and 1998. Today, seniors are only 13% more likely to fall into the most anti-Semitic category than the rest of the population.



Also, the educational levels of people over 65 are somewhat lower than the rest of the population. The ADL surveys have conclusively demonstrated that increased levels of education produce increased levels of tolerance. Therefore, these educational differences are another factor in accounting for seniors' propensities to hold more anti-Semitic views.

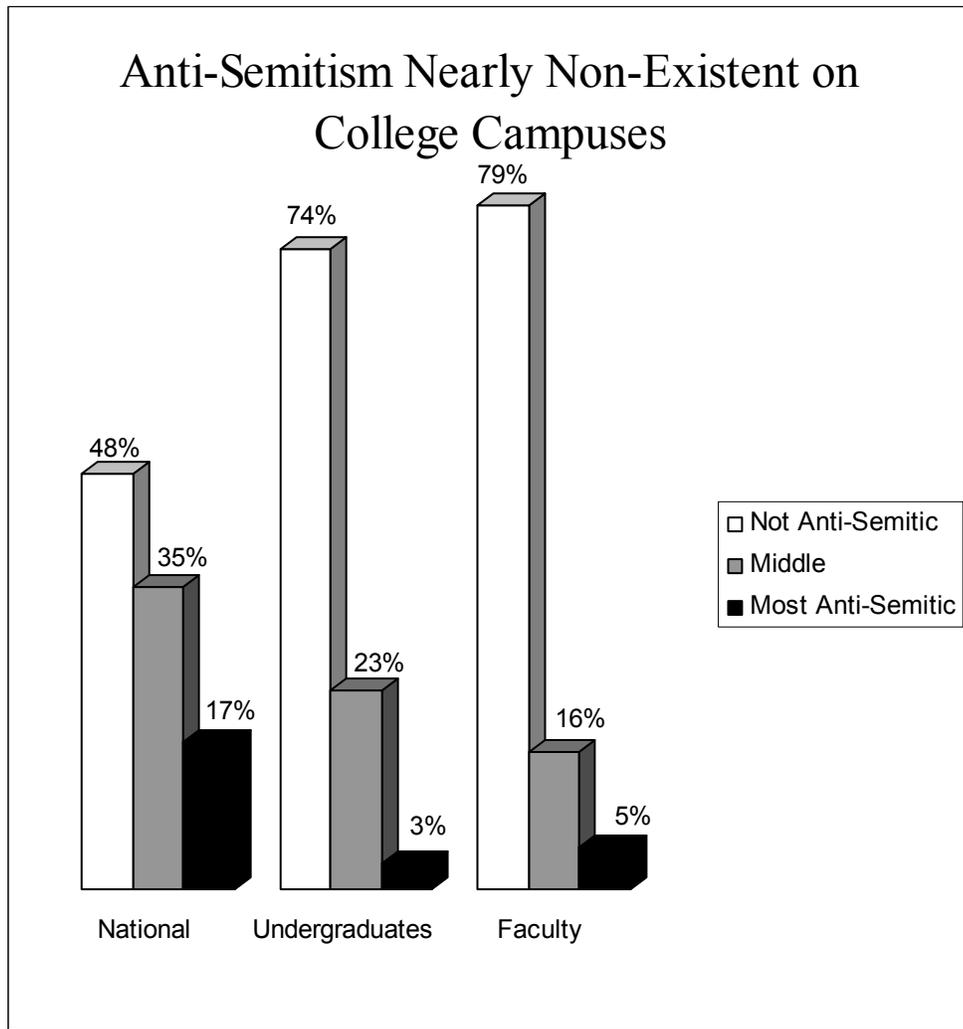
Nevertheless, the 2002 survey shows that age is less of a factor than it ever has been in the ADL research before. Presumably, age will be even less of a factor in future polling.

As one further indication of increased tolerance among seniors, the responses of people over 65 to the questions in the 2002 survey that measure tolerance are not materially different from the rest of the population.

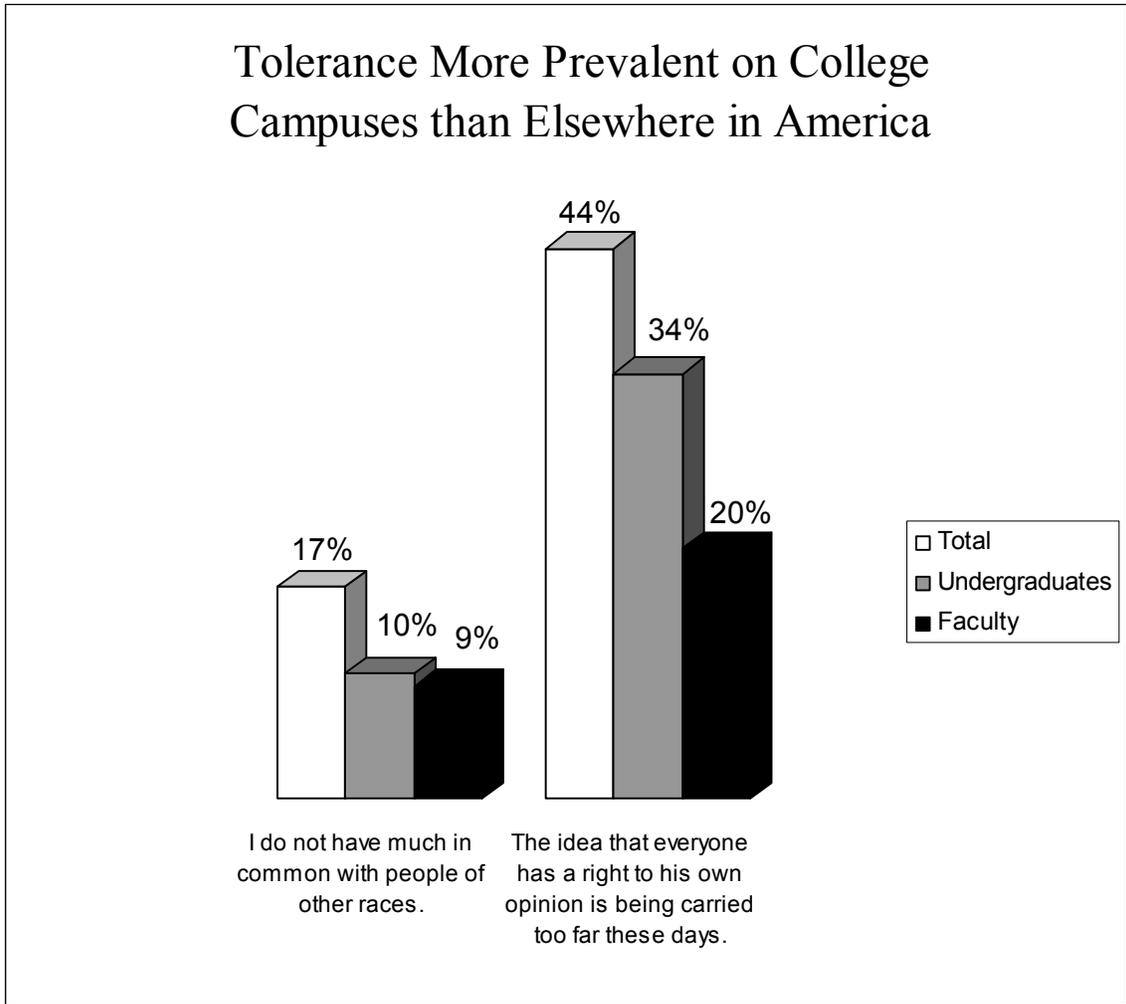
IX. ANTI-SEMITISM ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

Anti-Semitism on college campuses is virtually non-existent.

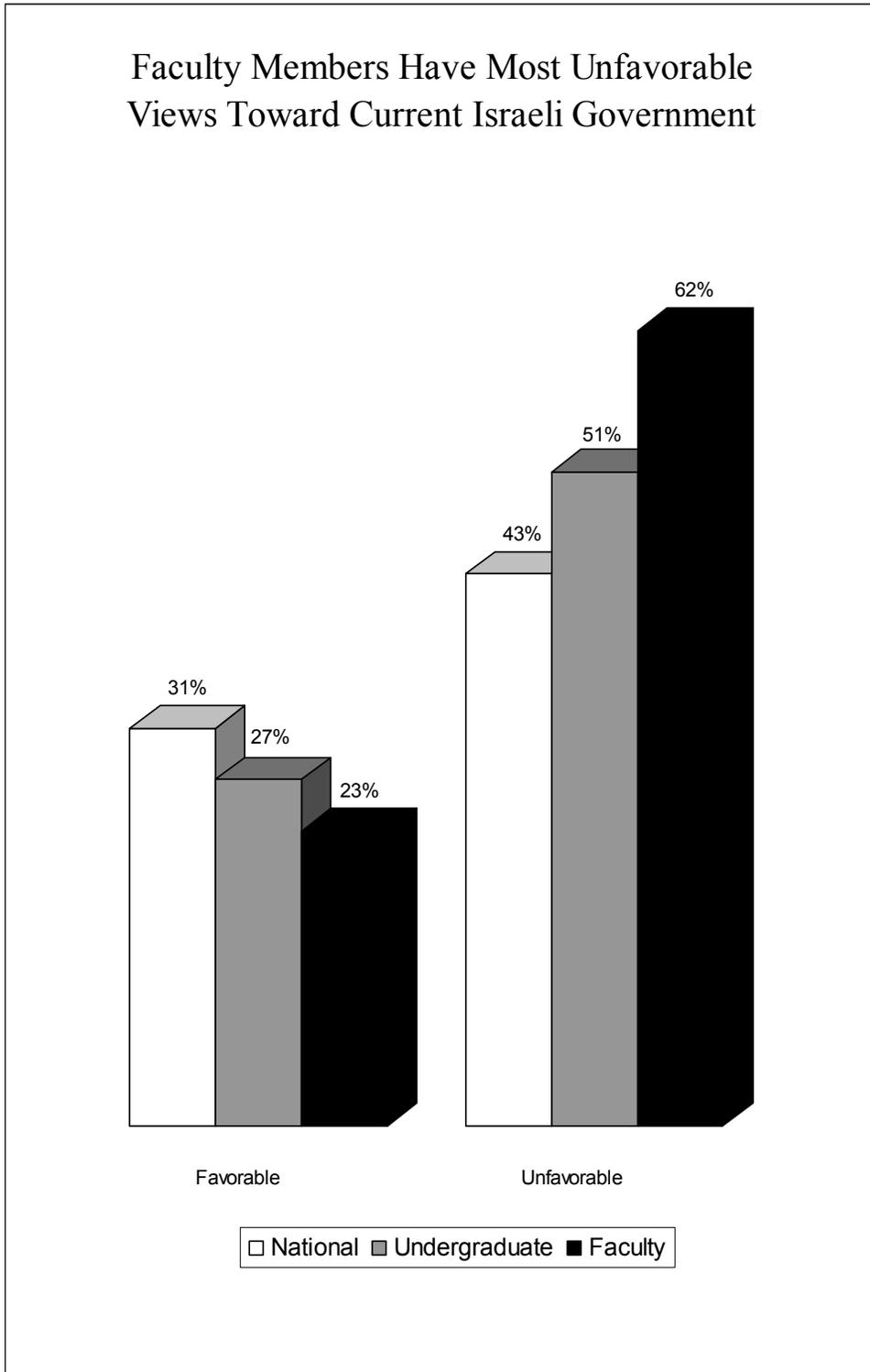
While the past year has seen incidents of anti-Semitism on college campuses and campus demonstrations in opposition and support of both sides in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, ADL's first survey of college students and college faculty finds that levels of anti-Semitism among both groups are extremely low. Importantly, while criticism of Israel is high relative to the national population -- especially among college faculty -- there is no corresponding evidence of significant anti-Semitic sentiment.



Compared to other Americans, college students and faculty are also significantly more tolerant on issues related to free speech and race.



While more than three out of five faculty members (62%) and a majority of undergraduates (51%) have an unfavorable impression of the current Israeli government, only 3% of undergraduates and 5% of faculty members fall into the most anti-Semitic category.



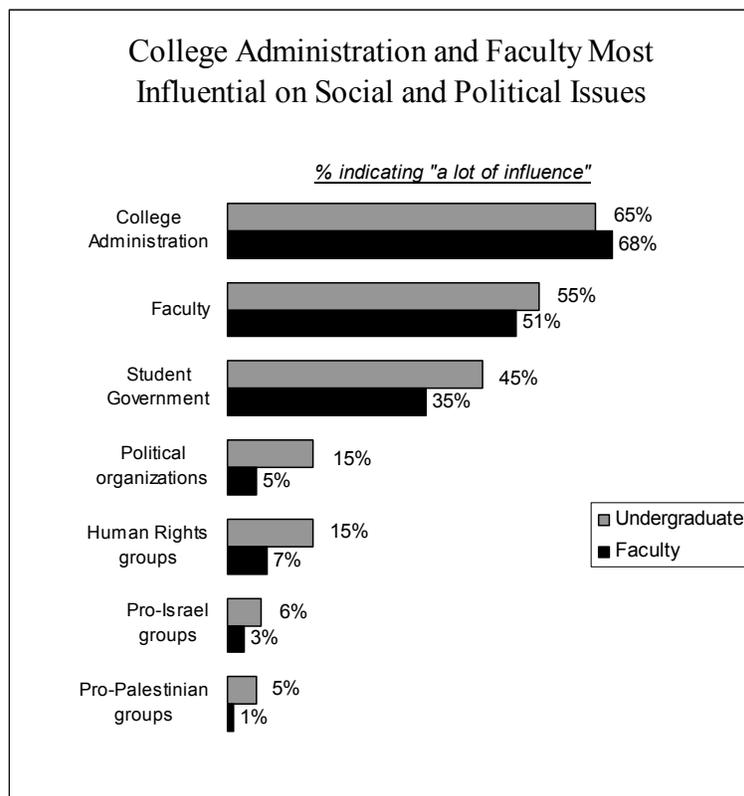
The current conflict in the Middle East is a prominent issue on college campuses, with 60% of students and 59% of faculty members reporting that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is important to students at their schools.

Twenty-nine percent of students also report that there have been demonstrations in support of the Palestinian position on their campuses and 26% report that pro-Israeli demonstrations have taken place.

When students and faculty were asked how influential they viewed certain institutions and organizations on campus, the college's administration, faculty and student government were deemed the most influential when it came to affecting social and political attitudes.

Traditional political organizations such as college Democrats or Republicans, human rights groups like Amnesty International and advocacy organizations such as pro-Israeli groups and pro-Palestinian groups are perceived as less influential.

Fewer than one in five students (18%) considers him or herself to be politically active. Of those who report being politically active, the vast majority (60%) are active on both foreign and domestic issues.



X. TEN-YEAR LESSONS

During the past 10 years, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) has conducted three national surveys (1992, 1998, 2002) to measure anti-Semitic propensities among the American people.

These national surveys were supplemented by a national survey of Hispanic-Americans in 2001 and additional smaller surveys of African-Americans in 1992 and 1998. In addition, during the past decade, ADL has conducted numerous surveys to measure American public reaction to unfolding events in the Middle East.

The totality of this work has produced a very solid analytic foundation to explain some of the root causes of anti-Semitism. At the same time, the ADL research has eliminated from consideration a series of demographic and attitudinal factors that had previously been seen as contributors to anti-Semitic beliefs in the United States.

Predictors of Anti -Semitism

Education

The ADL research has conclusively proven that as educational levels increase, tolerance increases. More educated Americans are much less likely to hold anti-Semitic views than less educated Americans. Moreover, more educated Americans are much more tolerant on a range of issues, including diversity, race relations, alternative lifestyles, women's empowerment and freedom of speech and the press.

Power

Forty years ago, when ADL first began its research into anti-Semitism, the most common negative Jewish stereotypes dealt with issues of Jewish honesty and ethics. Today, the most common negative stereotypes are much more likely to be centered on the issue of Jewish power in the U.S. In fact, for the first time ever, the issue of Jewish power emerged as a driver of anti-Semitic propensities in the 2002 survey. Simply put, Americans who

believe that Jews have too much power in the U.S. are statistically more likely to hold anti-Semitic beliefs.

Israel

Until 2002, negative attitudes toward Israel did not appear to be a significant factor in driving anti-Semitic propensities in the United States. Even among the most anti-Semitic Americans, negative views about Israel were much more likely to be a result of personal beliefs than a contributing factor to those anti-Semitic propensities. In contrast, the 2002 survey reveals that negative attitudes toward Israel and a belief that Jews have too much influence on U.S. policies in the Middle East are now driving anti-Semitic beliefs in America.

Race

The 2002 ADL survey confirms earlier research showing that both African-Americans and Hispanic-Americans are much more likely to hold anti-Semitic views than other Americans. In part, these anti-Semitic propensities can be explained by lower levels of education among African-Americans and Hispanic-Americans in comparison to white Americans in particular.

One of the most important findings of the ADL research in recent years is that foreign-born Hispanics are especially likely to hold anti-Semitic views. In fact, this cohort of Americans has more individuals in the most anti-Semitic category than any other demographic sector of the U.S. population.

Tolerance

The three ADL surveys have conclusively proven that intolerance breeds further intolerance. Therefore, if a person is generally intolerant, then he or she is much more likely to hold anti-Semitic views. The ADL research has proven conclusively that the viruses of intolerance travel together.

Age

While age was once a very important predictor of anti-Semitic propensities, the 2002 survey reveals that it is losing its predictive value. Its importance as a predictor of anti-Semitic views is likely to be even less of a factor in future research.

Factors Found Not to Drive Anti-Semitism

Religion

In all three ADL surveys, the regression analysis concluded that religion is not a driver of anti-Semitic propensities in the United States. The current survey shows that Hispanic Catholics are more likely to hold anti-Semitic views. However, as noted earlier, this is largely attributable to the anti-Semitic propensities of Hispanic Catholics born outside of the United States.

Economic Distress

Contrary to a widely held belief regarding the emotional and attitudinal impact of economic distress, regression analyses conducted of the ADL survey results have rejected the notion that economic distress triggers anti-Semitic propensities.

The 1992 survey was conducted during a particularly difficult period in the economic history of the United States, and many questions about the economic impact of the 1992 recession were included as part of that survey. Nevertheless, the analysis concluded that even the severe economic distress of 1992 did not trigger anti-Semitic beliefs.

Political Ideology and Party Affiliation.

The 10 years of ADL research have shown that political ideology and party affiliation are not drivers of anti-Semitic propensities.