



# OPEN LETTER TO FELLOW JEWS ABOUT THE NOVEMBER ELECTION: YOU SHOULD HAVE SUPPORTED DONALD TRUMP

*Posted on January 1, 2021 by Walter E. Block*



How did Jews vote in the 2020 presidential election? It is still too early to determine this, fully accurately, but early evidence indicates that [we supported Biden](#) to the tune of about 72% and Trump the remaining 28%. To add insult to injury, of the 34 members of Congress who are Jewish, fully 32 of them are Democrats.

What more did poor [Donald Trump have to do](#) to earn an overwhelming majority of the Jewish vote? He moved the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, something promised on numerous occasions by his predecessors. Several members of his family converted to Judaism; did he break with them, sit shiva? Of course not. Compare his relationship with Bibi with that of Barack Obama; night and day: no comparison.

He pulled the U.S. out of the Iran nuclear deal. An executive order of his targeted anti-Semitism – primarily in the form of Israel boycotts – on college campuses. At the annual White House Hanukkah Party, Trump ordered the US Department of Education to effectively interpret Judaism as a race or nationality in addition to a religion. As a result, those universities which fail to take steps to quell discrimination against Jewish students may have their funding cut off. He withdrew the United States from the United Nations Human Rights Council, which has unfairly been on the Israeli case for years, ignoring numerous serious human rights violations elsewhere.

In the summer of 2019, Trump even outdid Israel. That country was in the process of making an exception to their rule barring entry of all BDS supporters for Congressmen Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib. Trump intervened, and they were disinvited. What else did he do that Jews ought to appreciate?

- He initiated the Trump Plan, Peace to Prosperity
- He stopped financial support for the UNWRA
- He supported Israel sovereignty over the Golan
- He kicked the Palestinian Authority out of Washington and defunded them

Most recently, the only president we presently have waved his magic wand and helped make peace between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Sudan. Normalized relationships are now being implemented. And, too, it looks as if this will be repeated with Oman and several others. Trump is a mensch. OK, OK, he doesn't bake bagels or manufacture gefilte fish. C'mon, give this man a break!

How many more mitzvot does Trump need to perform in order to get Jews to appreciate him? In fact, it would be difficult to mention a more philo-Semitic president than the Donald. Has any other US president come within a million miles of these deeds, with the possible exception of Harry Truman who recognized Israel? To ask this is to answer it.

And, yet, according to that old aphorism, "Jews have the wealth of Presbyterians and vote like Puerto Ricans." Most recently, more than six hundred [Jewish groups went on record](#) in support of Black Lives Matter, not the idea, which all men of good will can support, but the Marxist "peaceful" marchers.

What did things look like for the People of the Book on the other side of the aisle? Oy vey. Bernie ("Bibi is a racist") Sanders did not win the Democratic nomination for president, but his negative viewpoints on Israel have left an [indelible impression](#) upon the foreign policy platform of that party. OK, you say, platform schplatform; no one has to abide by it, no one ever does. But, still, it indicates where the [hearts and minds of the Democrats](#) are located. It is indicative of the types of advisors who will be surrounding the very possible President Biden, come 2021.

Then there is the high-flying very powerful "Squad" (Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Rashida Tlaib, Ayanna Pressley, Ilhan Omar). These young women are the leading indicators of the Democratic Party. Their views indicate where this organization is likely headed for the next few years.

[Sayeth Omar](#): "Israel has hypnotized the world." She called upon Allah to "awaken the people and help them see the evil doings of Israel." She supports BDS and has likened Israel to Nazi Germany. She has castigated Congressmen who support Israel, but not any other nation, "for allegiance to a foreign country." And she maintains that favoring Israel is "all about the Benjamins" (gelt, for the unwary). She apologized for the latter, but not the former.

In the [view of Tlaib](#): "We cannot be honest brokers for peace if we refuse to use the words 'illegal occupation by Israel...'" Also: "I spoke today as the proud granddaughter of a strong, loving Palestinian woman in opposition to #HRes326. We must take bolder actions to ensure human rights are upheld in Israel and that Palestinians and Black Israelis are treated with the equality every human being deserves." The clear fact is that Arabs in Israel are treated far better than in any other country in the Middle East, as indicated by "voting with the feet." Arabs are not emigrating from Israel; they are trying to immigrate into that country.

Here is [Pressley's reaction](#) to Bibi Netanyahu's plan to annex Judea and Samaria: "Let me be clear, unilateral annexation is a threat to democracy and would create apartheid like conditions and entrench human rights violations against the Palestinian people..."

And [AOC's view](#) of this matter? "Should the Israeli government continue down this path, we will work to ensure non-recognition of annexed territories as well as pursue legislation that conditions the \$3.8 billion in U.S. military funding to Israel to ensure that U.S. taxpayers are not supporting annexation in any way." In case some of you were busy davening, OK, Rip van Winkling it, these four congressmen are members of the Democratic Party's "progressive" wing, and bitter enemies of President Trump. We're going to vote for the Presidential candidate who supports them? Maazel Tov.

OK, we Yidden account for only some 2% of the electorate. Our vote, therefore, doesn't count for too much, some might say. But we are more involved in politics than many, have larger megaphones than some, and are usually more than willing to put our money where our mouths are. We thus had a disproportionate effect on the 2020 election compared to our raw numbers. It is imperative, then, that we rethink our typical 90%-10% support of the Democratic Party. A shonda.

Every other demographic cohort casts ballots in the direction of their perceived interests. Why should we be any different? If we value a good U.S. relationship with the only civilized country in the Middle East, the only nation that treats gays, women and minorities decently, we should have rethought our knee-jerk aversion to Mr. Trump, and wish him another four years. We should have also gotten off our tuchases and worked for this eventuality.

I have no problem, none whatsoever, with the usual roughly 90-10 split in the Jewish vote between the two major parties. I just wish it were in the other direction. What are we, to bite the hand offered us in friendship over and over and over again? Meshugenahs? Moishe Pippicks? Schlemeeles? Schmendrecks? Schlemaazls? Luft-menschen? It was beshert that Trump be reelected. Don't be a nudnick. Don't be a putz. Yes, his schtick is a bit off-putting to some; but it shouldn't be to most of us, who are also from the Big Apple. It goes with the territory.

I hate to be repetitive, but, oy vey.

On the other hand, thank God for Orthodox Jewry, may their numbers increase. At least those people

have Yiddishe cups and more than just a bissle of ethics; maybe from the study of the Talmud? Most recently, Rabbi Shmuel Kamenetsky [encouraged his haredi followers](#) to vote for Donald Trump. Why? In one word: gratitude.

All this, of course, is now in the past. But there will be elections, again, in two, four, six years from now, God willing. It is time, it is past time, for us Jews to seriously question, and then reject our aversion to the Republican Party. Are they perfect? Fully aligned with the Talmud. Of course not. But, compared to the alternative, it is an easy call in their behalf.

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*The [image](#) shows a socialist Yiddish poster from 1917, which reads, "Vote for the United Jewish Socialist Workers Party." [Thanks to Rafi Farber for the translation].*

