

I don't want to write about the news from the Middle East. I don't want to write about what Israel or even what Hamas has done. We've all seen it. No need to repeat it here.

What I do want to write about is personal. I want to write about what I see and feel myself. It may be long but needs to be said.

Some of you might remember my late wife, Ruthie. We were married 47 years when she passed. What you might not know is that she was JEWISH! She would attend Mass with me, and I would attend Synagogue with her. When we were in Florida, we were members of a Synagogue led by Rabbi Fred Natkin. When we moved to Georgia we joined Temple Beth David in Snellville, Georgia. The Rabbi played guitar during services. When he retired Ruthie volunteered for me to play. I've been doing that for 9 years with Cantor Barry Nickelsberg who has become a good friend to me. We have had a part time Rabbi on and off during those years. When there was no Rabbi available the Cantor and I led the service.

Occasionally I would have a question and used to start it with "Since I'm not Jewish...." I would receive the answer with, "You are a member of the 'Tribe' and are more Jewish than some of the congregants". I would take that with pride.

Because of her last name many didn't know that, and she was the target of some antisemitic remarks.

In the Jewish faith the religion flows through the mother. My children, although Baptized, are Jewish in the eyes of that faith. My daughter's children are Jewish. My granddaughter's children will be Jewish.

My children were the victims of antisemitism while in high school. Sadly, they both went to Catholic schools in New York. Change would be thrown on the floor of a school bus and they would be told "you're a Jew. Pick up the change". Swastikas would be painted on their lockers. Even when one of them attended the University of Central Florida swastikas would be left at their dorm room door. How many of you used the term "jewing them down"? I find that offensive.

While I am a devout Catholic, Eucharistic minister and play guitar at my Church, I feel a part of the "Tribes Of Israel".

Rogers and Hammerstein wrote a song for South Pasific, "You've Got To Be Taught". Some of the lyrics are:

You've got to be taught to hate and fear,  
You've got to be taught from year to year,  
It's got to be drummed in your dear little ear—  
You've got to be carefully taught!

You've got to be taught before it's too late,  
Before you are six or seven or eight,  
**To hate all the people your relatives hate—**  
You've got to be carefully taught!

I see students at Universities and Colleges around the country supporting the Palestinians and Hamas. I see them blaming Israel for the conflict. I hear them saying the videos and statements from victims are just Israeli propaganda. **You got to be carefully taught!** Taught by teachers and professors, taught by parents who don't think the little ears of their children are listening. Taught by a society that secretly believe that Jews are the bankers and are the secret controllers of the world.

Funny thing is the Cantor at Temple Beth David (TBD) was an ambulance tech. Those he was called didn't ask his religion; they were grateful he was there. Another member of TBD is an auto mechanic. I know Jewish plumbers, carpenters, and electricians. I don't think they are members of secret organizations aimed at controlling the world.

**You've got to be carefully taught.** You've got to be taught to say nothing when you hear others make disparaging remarks. You've got to be taught to keep your feelings inside. You've got to be taught not to get involved.

Hamas and Hezbollah. I've heard that they want to destroy Israel. **WRONG.** Their aim is to complete Hitler's directive to irradicate ALL JEWS around the world. Our spineless President, when asked if Iran had a hand in this attack, says there is no direct evidence. This feckless administration says the \$6 billion is being used for humanitarian purposes even though the Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said his government will decide how it will spend \$6 billion in previously frozen funds due to be released in a prisoner exchange agreement with the U.S., telling NBC News' Lester Holt that the money will be spent "**wherever we need it.**"

Those who think the violence will be against Israel and is restricted to the middle east. Again **WRONG!**

How many Jihadists came across our southern border? How many times do we need to hear the Iranian Parliament chant "Death To America, Death To Israel"? What will it take to get people to understand that the hot war is in Israel now, but we are the Great Satan and Israel is the Little Satan?



Sign Seen In Israel

Our naïve and foolish President told the United Nations that we will work towards a Two State solution. He hasn't read the following taken from the Palestinian Liberation Organization's Charter:

**Article 9: Armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine and is therefore a strategy and not tactics.** The Palestinian Arab people affirms its absolute resolution and abiding determination to pursue the armed struggle and to work for an armed popular revolution, to liberate its homeland and return to it to maintain its right to a natural life in it, and to exercise its right of self-determination in it and sovereignty over it.

**Article 12:** The Palestinian people believe in Arab unity. In order to contribute their share toward the attainment of that belief, however, **they must, at the present stage of their struggle, safeguard their Palestinian identity and develop their consciousness of that identity, and oppose any plan that may dissolve or impair it.**

**Article 15:** The liberation of Palestine, from an Arab viewpoint, is a national duty to repulse the Zionist, imperialist invasion from the great Arab homelands and to **eliminate the Zionist presence front Palestine.** Its full responsibilities fall upon the Arab nation, peoples, and governments, **with the Palestinian Arab people at their head.**

And our clueless President still promotes his two-state solution. Solution to what? The Palestinians are not interested in two states, but only one with the total elimination of Israel and Jews worldwide.

Please forgive this lengthy piece but I take being a Jew in this world personally. Although I am a Catholic, I identify with our Jewish community. Remember, Jesus was not a Christian – **HE WAS A JEW!**

Please view this [video](#) and take to heart the message. Copy and paste the message of the "Blue Square in your email and other social media. If you see, hear or read about antisemitism, don't sit idly by **DO SOMETHING!**



The blue square represents the American Jewish Community, which is 2.4% of the U.S. Population. Yet Jews are victims of 55% of all religious crimes in the United States.

Let's share this blue square to let them know they're not fighting alone.