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Dear Mr. Williams,

Thank you for your <u>recent article</u>: "A hate crime commission was roiled by an antisemitic controversy. Now, the attorney general is ready to restructure it." I am writing about one sentence in that article stating that: "Black men (24.4%) and Black women (20.7%) were most likely to be the victims of hate bias, with white men accounting for 19% of cases."

Although it's a bad competition to win, Jews are actually the most likely to be the victims of hate/bias crimes, both statewide in Maryland and locally in Howard County. This has been true for many years, with each recent year worse than the one before; it has gotten much worse since October 7th after which antisemitic hate crime skyrocketed. In Howard County, antisemitic hate crime increased 750% in the last quarter of 2023. Although there are more total hate/bias crimes against Black men and women, Jews are more likely (per capita) to be victims of a hate/bias crime. (data and links to authoritative sources provided in the tables below).

The difference is subtle, but important because of what it means to individuals: any given Jew in Maryland is more likely to be the victim of a hate/bias crime than an individual of any other ethnicity, religion, gender, etc. HoCoJAG opposes all bigotry, but our mission is to increase awareness and reduce antisemitism in Maryland. We appreciate your work in combating hate and hope you will consider helping your readers in the greater Baltimore area become more aware of the severity and extent of antisemitism.

If you would like to discuss this further, we would welcome the opportunity to speak with you.

Sincerely,

Howard County Jewish Advocacy Group (HoCoJAG)
David Albert - Secretary
Trevor Greene - President
Max Altmark - Treasurer

The tables below illustrate how much more likely you are to be the victim of a hate/bias crime based on your race/ethnicity. (%victims / %population) using the most recently available data.

Maryland 2022:

	Population	Hate/Bias Victims	Increased Likelihood
Jewish	3.9%	15.2%	3.90x
Black	31.7%	43.3%	1.37x
Muslim	3.1%	1.6%	0.52x
Hispanic	11.5%	4.3%	1.41x

Howard County 2023:

	Population	Hate/Bias Victims	Increased Likelihood
Jewish	5.57%	16.09%	2.89x
Black	21.3%	49.43%	2.32x
Muslim	2.96%	<u>5.75%</u>	1.94x
Hispanic	7.9%	2.3%	0.29x

Resources:

- 2022 Maryland Hate Bias Report
- https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/howardcountymaryland,MD/RHI225222
- Baltimore 2020 Jewish Community Study
- Jewish Population by State 2024
- Muslim Population by State 2024
- Rankings by Counties, Metro-Areas, States (Quicklists) | Statistics | US Religion
- <u>United States Department of Justice | Hate Crimes | Maryland</u>
- Montgomery County hate/bias crime statistics: https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/pol/Resources/Files/Annual-Reports/BiasIncident s/MCPD%202023%20Annual%20Hate%20Bias%20Report.03202024.LD.saf.pdf
- Howard County hate/bias crime statistics supplied by HCPD at HoCoJAG request: https://hocojag.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/HCPD-HBI-2023.pdf