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### Film calls anti-Semitism 'threat to civilization'

By David A. Schwartz

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Anti-Semitism is growing and is now a threat to Jews around the world and to Israel, according to the new documentary film "Unmasked Judeophobia: The Threat to Civilization," which will have its South Florida premiere at 7 p.m. on March 11 at Temple Beth El in [Boca Raton](#).

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"There is a growing awareness. It's hard to ignore it," Gloria Z. Greenfield, who produced and directed the film, said last week in a phone interview from her home in Boston. "Anti-Semitism is the driving force in the call for the destruction of the Jewish state and the killing of Jews."

Greenfield, who will speak at Temple Beth El following the screening, said, "There's been a lot of calls coming out of the Islamist movement. Israelis understand that it's not just Jews in Israel. There is a reemergence of lethal Jew hatred."

"Unmasked Judeophobia" traces the rise of anti-Semitism from the Middle Ages to today through interviews with experts from around the world including Nobel Prize laureate and author Elie Wiesel; *Wall Street Journal* columnist Bret Stephens; Britain's chief rabbi Jonathan Sacks; Canadian Member of Parliament Irwin Cotler; United States Senator Joe Lieberman; author and Harvard Law School professor Alan Dershowitz; and a number of other authors, scholars and journalists.

Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor who has dedicated his life to fighting anti-Semitism, opens the film. "Since 1945 I was not as afraid as I am now," he says. "I'm afraid because anti-Semitism that I thought belonged to the past, somehow survived. I was convinced in '45 that anti-Semitism had died with its Jewish victims at Auschwitz and Treblinka, but I see, no, the Jews perished but anti-Semitism in some parts of the world is flourishing."

Greenfield said the purpose of the film is to "awaken all the good and decent people that there's a lethal threat and we've got to learn from the past."

While the film focuses on the war against Jews, Christians are being massacred, she said. "This is a war against the west. Jews are the canary in the mine."

Greenfield said Jews in North America are fortunate that they have not experienced the threat that Jews in Europe and the Middle East are facing. "We have to recognize and understand what is happening and to stand up and speak against it."

Rabbi Jessica Brockman of Temple Beth El called the film "amazing." She said anti-Israel and anti-Zionist feelings are "inextricably tied up in anti-Semitism."

Marvin Schlanger, a Palm Beach Gardens snowbird from Cherry Hill, New Jersey who has seen "Unmasked Judeophobia," said the film gives "a sense of the scope of the problem and magnitude of the problem we're fighting."

Schlanger said it is important to bring anti-Semitism to the surface. "Too many people in our community want things to be better so they ignore the threat."

"Unmasked Judeophobia: The Threat to Civilization" will be shown at 7 p.m. on March 11 at Temple Beth El, 333 Southwest Fourth Ave. in [Boca Raton](#). Admission is \$5. Call 561-391-8900.

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