



1904 - 2018

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19 Cheshvan 5779

J Finkelstein
President, and CEO Pittsburgh's Jewish Federation
Per email: jfinkelstein@jfedpgh.org

Dear Mr Finkelstein

Kol yisrael arevim zeh bazeh,

The South African Jewish Board of Deputies (Cape Council) expresses its horror and sadness at the deadly attack on our fellow Jews at the Shabbat service at the Tree of Life synagogue this past Saturday.

Your loss is our loss and we condemn this attack in the strongest possible terms. On behalf of the Jewish community in Cape Town, South Africa, we share your anguish and grief at this appalling act. It is unconscionable that in 2018, a hate filled antisemite should invade a synagogue on a Shabbat morning and proceed to murder worshippers whilst praying. There should be no place for hate in our communities.

Unnervingly, in his July 19th blog, Rabbi Jeffrey Myers criticises government officials for their inaction around gun regulations in the United States and made a point 'as shooters are finding other valuable sites'. His worst fears came true. Seventy years after the Holocaust, the longest hatred is still alive to the extent that the ADL has noted a historic increase in antisemitic incidents and online harassment.

We mourn the unnecessary deaths. We share in the sorrow of the bereaved families and send our prayers for a Refuah Shleimah to all the injured as well as the entire Pittsburgh Jewish community.

Despite the attempts of the attacker and our enemies, we will stand strong, united together. *Am Yisrael Chai*

Yours truly

RAEL KAIMOWITZ
CHAIRMAN

STUART DIAMOND
DIRECTOR