

Ten tips to spot and fight a “Canada Dry” (“anti-Zionist”) Holocaust denier on the Internet or on social networks

A “Canada Dry” Holocaust denier is a cowardly individual but a more or less skilful tactician. He does not want to appear as an avowed “negationist” as we say in French, a nostalgic of Nazism or fascism. He therefore has various techniques for hiding and trolling effectively in the cyberspace. This text was written after spotting and confronting such an individual on academia.edu website, in the context of a discussion about French Holocaust deniers and their peculiarities. But I think this is a much more widespread attitude, which cannot be reduced to this despicable academic whose name I will not even quote.

P.S. : The use of the “Canada Dry” metaphor in my title alludes to a famous advertisement for that brand (*“it has the colour of alcohol, the taste of alcohol, but contains no alcohol”*) and in no way implies that there is, at least as far as I know, the slightest commercial or political link between this beverage and Holocaust deniers. :=)

1. Be aware that this kind of troll will never dare to write directly about the Judeocide. [I prefer to use the term Judeocide than Holocaust, which is more religiously connoted.] He will only express his “thoughts” about Israel. So don't try to prove to him that he is whitewashing Nazi crimes or that he is simply copy-pasting the poor “arguments” and historical falsifications of proven Holocaust deniers, you will be wasting your time and energy. He will fiercely deny having this intention and claim to be “painfully” insulted. Nowadays, it is advisable to bring up one's personal feelings in a political debate, rather than provide arguments based on sound knowledge.

2. If he can (but this is rare), he will quote one of his posts or articles in which he has denounced, in an ambiguous sentence, Nazi crimes. Or, more likely, one of the articles he has retweeted or reposted on Facebook or elsewhere – and if it's written by an Israeli or an anti-Zionist Jew, then he will definitely have a political orgasm.

3. Your interlocutor will quote a cascade of names of so-called "anti-Zionist" Jewish intellectuals (Norman Finkelstein, Ilan Pappé, Shlomo Sand, etc.), organisations such as Gush Shalom or other Israeli NGOs, newspapers such as Haaretz and journalists such as Gideon Levy, but these quotes will always be vague, out of context, because in fact his aim will be only to manipulate the facts or the quotes. You will often find that he has not even read the authors he is quoting, but that the mere fact of using these names is in his eyes an argument. Don't expect him to cite journal articles or to have read so-called 'Zionist' authors to test his own beliefs.

4. In order to avoid any confrontation with historical facts, “Canada Dry” Holocaust deniers will start by adopting a very abstract style and proceed by allusions. They will use vague expressions such as “persecutions”, “Inquisition”, “thought police”, and pretend that “it's impossible to have a calm intellectual dialogue and discussion in the West”, etc.

5. They will compare themselves (but in fact they include in their plea the deniers of the Judeocide they secretly defend) to the “heretics” pursued by the “Inquisition”, or to the dissidents of the USSR and

the so-called socialist bloc who risked “going to jail and losing their jobs” if they opposed the dominant ideology. They will compare the “Western attitude” towards Judeocide deniers to the repressive methods of the Talibans and claim that they are “persecuted by law ” without ever giving a concrete example of such persecution. They will denounce a “violent, legal and political witch-hunt” in the West. They will not hesitate to assert that the West treats Judeocide deniers as the Nazis treated the Jews. Or they will compare Western democratic states to the Islamic State, their treatment of Holocaust deniers to that of the Yezidis. So don't be surprised, if they pick any “argument” to serve their rotten cause.

6. To create an even denser smoke screen of ambiguity and mystification, they will allude to the tragic fate of Socrates and Galileo (as the French Holocaust denier Faurisson did in his time on his blog), or even Voltaire, but they will never mention the precise names of the Judeocide deniers in the 20th and 21st centuries, or the victims of an imaginary present-day “witch-hunt” against avowed Holocaust deniers and themselves. Do not expect them to quote Faurisson, Garaudy, Rassinier, Zündel, Raynouard, Soral or Dieudonné as references. Only the most stupid ones will engage in this field.

7. Since they cannot directly address the issue of Judeocide without risking exposure, they will quote articles from the mainstream media comparing Gaza to Auschwitz. They will not mention that in Gaza Palestinians have armed forces and groups with guns, machine guns and even missile launchers. And they will not mention the difference between the two Auschwitz: the concentration camp (where deportees were not killed immediately, but put to work or “simply” underfed and beaten regularly) and the death camp (where Jews were killed as soon as they arrived). Never forget that their knowledge of Nazism, Fascism and the history of antisemitism is very slight, if not non-existent.

8. They will claim that Israel is an “apartheid regime”, without providing any concrete comparison between the situation of Africans under apartheid and that of Israeli Arabs, or Gaza and West Bank inhabitants, in their respective societies. You will quickly discover that they know neither the history of South Africa nor that of Israel since 1948.

They will write that people like Netanyahu are “reincarnations of the Nazi past” and quote modern far-right extremists in Europe who are “Zionists”, to confuse you further.

9. If they lose their nerve, they will accuse you of being “complicit” in IDF war crimes. [Let's be clear: any state (even the future Palestinian state if it comes into being one day) is and will be based on violence and will not hesitate to commit war crimes or worse.] They will even tell you that you should join the IDF and “murder Palestinian children¹ in Gaza and the West Bank since they are, according to you, Holocaust deniers”. They will consider, in a revealing inversion of their deep drives, that you are a “butcher” and therefore wish to kill all anti-Zionists or, at the very least, lock them up in Guantanamo to re-educate them. Or, like the Soviet Stalinists who put their opponents in psychiatric hospitals, they will accuse you of having “mental problems”.

¹ Canada Dry Holocaust Deniers’ obsession for children's murders is a typical antisemitic trope. As far as I know all armies kill children, civilians, old people, women, etc. since the beginning of humanity. Read the Bible and the Quran, read any bouddhist or hindouist sacred books, these religious texts are all full of massacres of innocent civilians. Whether it's a planned project, a “collateral damage” of sophisticated weapons, a religious decision, or a spontaneous murderous pulsion of a soldier or a group of soldiers. This is not something “typically” Israelian or Jewish. But Canadry Dry Holocaust deniers have very special lenses to look at world's history. They never look at their own national history with such a critical eye.

10. In general, they will use left-wing, anti-imperialist language.

If they are reckless, they will at some point emit that the US is a “Zionist colony”. This is the theme of the ZORG (Zionist Occupied Remote Government), the imaginary occult power of the Jews over the US government, or of the so-called “Zionist Power Configuration” (ZPC) in the US.

If they have the nerve they will even call you anti-Semitic!

They will denounce the crimes of American imperialism, but will keep quiet about those of the Chinese or Russian powers. And they will never denounce the crimes of the Iranian, Syrian or Turkish states. They will act as paid propaganda agents for all sorts of corrupt, autocratic, police or totalitarian regimes, but present themselves as pure, candid supporters of peace and democracy, and of healthy intellectual and historical debate.

Don't argue with “Canada Dry” Holocaust deniers. Denounce them politically for what they are and do not be intimidated.

Yves Coleman, *Ni patrie ni frontières*, 25 August 2021 (modified on 29 August 2021)