

Owens: What is the current state of the Jewish community in Britain and America, and how are they different?

Ierman: A good place to start is to see, because there's obviously a large discrepancy. There are about 300,000 self-identifying Jews in Britain. Most British Jews live in London. Jews spread out in all kinds of interesting places, such as in South Wales, in the mining villages, or in the countryside as well. About 60 percent of the Jewish population is affiliated with some kind of Jewish organization, whether it's a synagogue or a cultural association. The main synagogue group is mainstream Orthodox, called the United Synagogue. About 60-70 percent of Jews here are affiliated with synagogues, are affiliated with their particular branch. Reform Jews make up about 15 or 20 percent of British Jews, and the ultra-Orthodox, who have become much more significant factors in British Jewry in recent years, make up about 10 percent of the Jewish population.

Lerman: Broadly speaking, organized British Jews are pro-Israel. I think in the last survey done of British Jews on the issue of Israel, about 80 percent said they are Zionists. However, there is a strong, albeit small, dissenting voice and

of freedom of thought and the kind of
thing. There was a time, of course, when
Israel was characterized by the ethos of
the kibbutz movement. I remember that
because I was involved in that kind of

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one-s a e sol ion an... a . So here's an
arg men... o sa... i 's nonsense beca... se i
can' happen. Who's going o impose i ?
The Americans aren' going o impose i .

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abo... one-s a e or... o-s a es?

Ierman: There is a grea... nease... i hin
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abo... an hing else b... a... o-s a e sol -
ion. Un il... er... recen l... here's been... er
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