

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington DC, 20510

November 13, 2024

Dear Leader Schumer:

We write today with deep concerns about your advice to administrators at Columbia University in response to antisemitic incidents on campus. Your comments are a disgrace to the office you hold and they warrant serious explanation.

On October 30, 2024, the House Committee on Education and Workforce released a report on campus antisemitism based on extensive investigation over the past year. This report reveals troves of information on how college administrators failed Jewish students, allowed Hamas sympathizers to engage in unchecked antisemitism, and violated federal antidiscrimination law.

The report also reveals details on your role in this disturbing and dangerous situation. According to then-President of Columbia, Minouche Shafik, you assured Columbia Administrators that universities would not face accountability if Democrats were in charge because the University's political problems were only among Republicans. You then advised then-President Shafik to keep her head down and not to meet with Republicans. Your contribution to Columbia University's disingenuous response to antisemitic incidents reveal precisely where your true priorities lie.

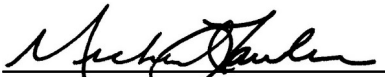
Despite outwardly condemning the discrimination at Columbia University this past Spring, your words tell a different story. In light of this discrepancy and the concerning revelations in the Committee's report, we ask that you answer several questions:

1. Why didn't you take antisemitic incidents at Columbia University seriously?
2. Please explain what you meant when you said, "universities political problems are really only among Republicans." Why are you trying to blame Republicans for Administrators' failures?
3. Do you feel that antisemitism is merely a "political problem?"

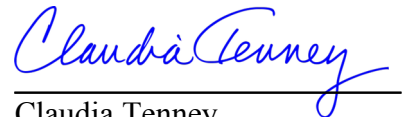
4. Does your upcoming book “Antisemitism in America: A Warning” detail antisemitism on Columbia’s campus and your conversations detailed in the Education and Workforce Committee’s report?
5. H.R. 6090, the Antisemitism Awareness Act, is one of the most consequential pieces of legislation that could actually help Jewish students. It passed the House with overwhelming bipartisan support in May of this year. Why haven’t you brought this legislation up for a vote yet?

Antisemitism must be rooted out, not accepted or excused. There is an unfortunate, yet clear distinction between your words spoken in public and your advocacy behind closed doors. Sadly, in light of this report, your upcoming book seems designed to profit you personally and politically, rather than enrich the dialogue surrounding antisemitism and offer concrete steps to combat it. We look forward to your response and to hopefully, a change in behavior.

Sincerely,



Michael V. Lawler  
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney  
Member of Congress



Brandon Williams  
Member of Congress



Nicole Malliotakis  
Member of Congress



Anthony D'Esposito  
Member of Congress



Nick LaLota  
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Andrew R. Garbarino  
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