

**8118:9/83**

## **AMERICAN BAPTIST RESOLUTION ON ANTI-SEMITISM**

We register our opposition to anti-Semitism which persistently raises its ugly head, creating tensions, hatred and violence. Remembering the deep foundation which Christianity has in Judaism, let us build upon that foundation so our own faith might be deepened and our understanding and appreciation of our Jewish neighbors might be enriched. The New Testament can never be properly used as a basis for anti-Semitism, but rather an understanding of Jesus, who was himself a Jew, must strengthen the bonds between the Jews and Christians. We call upon our Baptist people and fellow Americans to strive for the elimination of all prejudice and discrimination against the Jewish people in every walk of life, and to work for a closer relationship between our Christian and Jewish groups.

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Adopted by the American Baptist Convention - 1962

Affirmed as an American Baptist Churches Resolution by the Executive Committee of the General Board - September 1983

Modified by the General Board Executive Committee - September 1997

(General Board Reference # - 8118:9/83)

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## **POLICY BASE**

### **American Baptist Policy Statement on Human Rights**

As American Baptists we declare the following rights to be basic human rights, and we will support programs and measures to assure these rights:

1. The right of every person to choose a religion freely, to maintain religious belief or unbelief without coercion; the right for communities of faith to meet together to engage

in public worship, to witness publicly to others, to speak prophetically from religious conviction to government and society, to live out religious beliefs, and to be free from governmental intrusion, coercion, and control in the free exercise of conscience and religion;

9. The right to human dignity, to be respected and treated as a person, and to be protected against discrimination without regard to age, sex, race, class, marital status, income, national origin, legal status, culture or condition in society;

10. The right of ethnic or racial groups to maintain their cultural identity and to develop institutions and structures through which that identity can be maintained;

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