

The vandalism found at the JRC was offensive and disrespectful, but did not include any overt anti-semitic symbols (like swastikas). We have been in contact with those responsible and received a private apology, as well as a subsequent public apology. The public apology took place on Shabbat, in front of over 350 people. We deliberately chose Shabbat for the public apology, knowing it would not be recorded, and thus not contribute to further public attacks. We feel continued news coverage of this incident is unwarranted and unfortunate. From our perspective, it was put to rest weeks ago.

Echoing the Rabbi's Shabbat night message: this vandalism took place during the Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur season. While the theme of Rosh Hashana is judgment, the counter balancing theme of Yom Kippur is understanding and forgiveness. As far as the JRC is concerned, these students aren't bad people and certainly don't need to have their lives ruined. While they made a poor choice, they sincerely apologized, and we have high confidence they won't repeat such actions ever again.