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Christian Anti-Semitism Is Not the Problem

While I appreciate Andrew Doran's efforts to raise awareness of anti-Semitism, his argument that "Christians Need to Confront Anti-Semitism" (Houses of Worship, Feb. 4) is outdated and deflects from the real problem. The Catholic Church realized 60 years ago that it needed to confront anti-Semitism, and it did so in the Second Vatican Council. The church eliminated doctrines of deicide and supersessionism, while issuing formal apologies for Christianity's role in centuries of persecutions.

Protestant denominations, especially Lutheranism, have confronted their histories of anti-Semitism,

too. U.S. evangelicals may be the best example of the new warmth of feeling that has resulted.

Extraordinary progress has been made in Christian-Jewish relations, so much so that the Christian community is now among the Jewish people's best friends.

The distresses we Jews face from anti-Semitism today do *not* come from Christianity. Anti-Semitism today is predominantly a political—not a religious (and certainly not a Christian)—phenomenon, and should be confronted as such.

Portraying contemporary Christianity as the cause of this hatred, instead of beloved partners in

combating it, threatens to drive a wedge between Christians and Jews after the years of work that has been done to bring us together.

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