



# THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

*Preserving American Jewish History*

MS-603: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Collection, 1945-1992.

Series C: Interreligious Activities. 1952-1992

Box 43, Folder 7, Protestant textbook and curriculum study, 1969-1970.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

FO-CA  
**date** 11 February 1970  
**to** Marc Tanenbaum  
**from** Brant Coopersmith  
**subject** Protestant Textbook and Curriculum study

On receiving the memo from Rita Blume inquiring as to whether there might be some individuals or foundations who might be interested in supporting the Strober project, my immediate reaction was to seek support from Protestants that I know in this community.

However, I didn't want to take such steps without consulting with your department and I spoke with Gerald, who will be talking with you about it when he next sees you.

While I have no substantial question about the proposal as contained in Rita Blume's memo of February 5, it might be desirable to go over it again from the standpoint of a Protestant who would be giving it consideration.

While I can't document it, I have no doubt that there must be some Protestant money available from this community for this kind of a project. I can't tell how much there is in Washington, but I know there must be some. I would be interested in your reaction and look forward to hearing from you or Gerald.

Regards.

*BC*

BC.mk

CC. Gerald Strober  
 Rita Blume  
 Isaiah Terman

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

**date** February 5, 1970  
**to** Brant Coopersmith  
**from** Rita Blume  
**subject** PROTESTANT TEXTBOOK STUDY

The attached three year projection of the Protestant Textbook Study by Gerald Strober is being distributed to selected Foundations and individuals, requesting a grant in support of the program.

We are exercising caution to avoid any conflict with annual giving and are concerned with opening new sources of funding AJC's activities. In some instances, among those foundations in other geographic areas we are approaching, AJC contributors are trustees of foundations which make no gift to AJC.

I would appreciate your reviewing the report and advising me if there are either individuals or foundations in your area known to you who would be specifically interested in interreligious affairs and whom we might approach for a gift. Members of the Interreligious Affairs Department are prepared to meet with anyone interested to go into further details concerning the program.

From time to time as I find potential in your area I will forward the information to you for your evaluation prior to any approaches being made.

My best wishes.

cc: A.J. Kupperman  
 H. Rand  
 Rabbi M. Tanenbaum  
 Gerald Strober  
 E. Bergen & L. Swiller





# Judaism and Christian Education: The Strober Report

† IT IS INCONCEIVABLE that any Christian group in 1969 would openly affirm anti-Semitism in any form. Just about every Protestant denomination, along with all major ecumenical bodies, has adopted official statements expressing opposition to anti-Semitism. The chronic difficulty, of course, is the great gap that exists between official resolve and operational performance. That individual members of Christian bodies fail to measure up to enlightened standards of interreligious understanding is a very old story which cannot instantly be rewritten. What is especially intolerable, however, is the fact that the established programs of the churches so frequently compound the problem.

The future of Christian-Jewish relations in America is bound to be affected in part by the quality of Christian education carried on in the Protestant churches. That future is the subject of a report recently presented to the policy-making national executive board of the American Jewish Committee. An analysis of curriculum materials used in Protestant church schools concludes with the strong but carefully worded judgment that those materials reveal "the potential of fostering negative attitudes concerning Jews, Jewish religion and Jewish experience." Conducted by Presbyterian educator Gerald Strober, the survey analyzed 3,000 church school lessons contained in more than 300 texts published by 12 independent and denominational Protestant groups.

One of the more blatant illustrations of this problem was found in a 1968 issue of the *Bible School Journal*, published by the Church of the Nazarene. In that issue Judaism was termed "a religion that is inadequate, based on ignorance and prejudice, non-satisfying, and providing no solutions to the problems of sin and death." A 1967 issue of the *Gate*, published by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, contained this passage: "The Pharisees represented the one primary evil against which Jesus preached. He represents the one faith they could not tolerate and they conspired to kill Him."

Strober discovered a general neglect of the murder of 6 million Jews by the Nazi regime, notwithstanding the fact that Hitler's pogrom was "but the crown and pinnacle of a long history of hatred toward the Jew, participated in (if not initiated) by those whose duty it was to teach their children the truths of Christianity."

The Strober report notes that statements on anti-Semitism by Protestant bodies and Vatican II and such subjects as the spread of Jewish-Christian dia-

logue, black-Jewish relations, and the Arab-Israeli crisis tend not to be important concerns for those engaged in curriculum development. Accordingly, all Protestant denominations are urged to form task forces of Old and New Testament scholars and program specialists to re-evaluate patterns of teaching concerning Jews and Judaism, and to suggest positive programs which will result in balanced portraits not only in the curriculum but in "the very life of the church and the individual Christian."

This proposal for task forces deserves the earliest possible action by the Protestant churches of the United States. It is to be hoped that such task forces would also directly enlist the consultative services of Jewish leaders and, in matters relating to the Middle East, of persons who are sensitive to the range of conscientious Christian opinion. There are astonishing truths yet to be discovered in the terribly obvious but regularly forgotten fact that Jesus was a Jew, that he never ceased being a Jew, and that the Christian faith can never legitimately regard Judaism as a wholly other religion.

## Sheltering the Weathermen

† ONLY the most naive or nihilistic Christian commentators would hail the Weatherman faction of the Students for a Democratic Society as a redeeming force on the national scene. The violent antics of that woefully misdirected corps of mischief-makers are simply the latest chapter in the heartbreaking story of the decline and fall of SDS since its most promising beginnings in the early 1960s. Here in Chicago, where the Weathermen recently indulged in a four-day spree of destructive shenanigans, the cause of dissent and constructive change has been set back another couple of notches. Saul Alinsky, who has not always been quoted approvingly in this journal, states the obvious in insisting that these most extremist radicals have committed "the highest form of social treason," which is to engage in actions which bring reactions that strengthen the opposition. "Any sophisticated organizer knows," Alinsky declares, "that the action is always in the reaction."

But judgments about the manners and morals of Weathermen must not be confused with judgments about the ministry of those who seek to communicate with the most alienated of the radicals. It is just this confusion which has erupted all over the religious landscape—particularly the Methodist landscape—in the Chicago area in recent days.

Four United Methodist churches in Evanston, along with Methodist-related Garrett Theological Seminary, housed members of the Weatherman faction during their period of confrontation in Chicago. The pastors of those churches sought to miti-



## Protestant Minister Calls for a 'More Balanced Picture of Jews'

By IRVING SPIEGEL

Special to The New York Times

DETROIT, Oct. 22—A Protestant minister and teacher urged today that Protestant churches, collectively and individually, revise their religious teaching material to give a "more balanced picture of Jews, Judaism and Jewish-Christian relations."

The Rev. Gerald Strober, a Presbyterian, based his appeal on his year-long analysis of 3,000 church school lessons in more than 300 textbooks published by 12 Protestant groups, both unaffiliated and denominational.

His findings were embodied in a special report made to the policy-making National Executive Board of the American Jewish Committee, the 63-year-old human relations agency

The board opened its annual meeting today at the Pontchartrain Hotel.

Mr. Strober has been serving as consultant on religious curriculum through the Inter-religious Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee.

In his report, Mr. Strober asserted that while most denominations have issued statements deploring anti-Semitism and urging the combating of "this most ancient form of racism,"

the time is long past due, it seems to me, to translate that theoretical commitment into practice."

### Examples Given

He advocated that Protestant denominations establish groups of Old and New Testament scholars, church historians and

religious educators to re-evaluate teaching concerning Jews and Judaism.

"This is an agenda item of the highest order," he said.

Mr. Strober quoted from a publication of the Church of the Nazarene, the Bible School Journal. A 1968 issue referred to Judaism as "a religion that is inadequate, based on ignorance and prejudice, non-satisfying, and providing no solutions to the problems of sin and death," Mr. Strober said.

He quoted as follows from The Gate, published in 1967 by the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod.

"The Pharisees represented the one primary evil against which Jesus preached. He represents the one faith they could not tolerate and they conspired to kill him."

Mr. Strober, who has served churches in New Hampshire and in Brooklyn, reported that only a few of the Sunday school teachings dealt at any length with the genocide of six million Jews under the Nazi regime "or the responsibility of Christians for the events of that period."

### Recent Events

His study indicated also that recent events affecting the Jewish people and Jewish-Christian relations have little effect on the way Jews and Judaism were presented in Protestant textbooks.

In this connection, he said textbooks disregarded such subjects as Ecumenical Council Vatican II, which repudiated anti-Semitism and the deicide charge against Jews, "the spread of Jewish-Christian dia-

logue, and Arab-Israel crisis."

Philip E. Hoffman, president of the committee, who made public the Strober report, said that it was an outgrowth of a 1963 study of Protestant teaching materials by Dr. Bernhard E. Olson, formerly of the Yale Divinity School. Part of Mr. Strober's investigation was to evaluate the impact of Dr. Olson's study, titled "Faith and Prejudice," on Protestant textbook publishers.

Mr. Strober found that despite widespread familiarity with the Olson study, many publishers were ignoring it, in part because of budget problems and staff turnover. Other publishers told them, he added, that they feared they would lose their constituencies if "they espoused a controversial viewpoint."



## THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

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### JEWISH CONTENT IN PROTESTANT TEACHINGS

The American Jewish Committee's concern about Christian education and its relation to anti-Semitism and efforts to deal with this problem on a scientific and scholarly level, resulted in the landmark study by Dr. Bernhard E. Olson, Faith and Prejudice.

Dr. Olson's study, initiated by the AJC at the Yale Divinity School, spanned the period 1949-1959 and was originally published as a doctoral dissertation in 1959. Faith and Prejudice, a non-technical but scholarly book on the investigation was published in 1963 by Yale University Press. The study received widespread publicity, including a front-page story in the New York Times, Time, Newsweek, the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish press, and numerous programs on national radio and television. This mass media coverage helped widen the impact of the findings in many parts of American life.

Faith and Prejudice received the national Mass Media Award of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The award

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citation said in part, "Faith and Prejudice is a searching analytical study of religious prejudice among Protestant Americans and an invaluable contribution to religious dialogue." Further acclaim for the study came from two noted Protestant theologians, Dr. John C. Bennett and Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr. Dr. Bennett commented, "Dr. Olson's study made clear that whether consciously or unconsciously, the seeds of prejudice are in religious teachings." Dr. Niebuhr said, "I have always felt that anti-Semitism was not truly religious, but was partly the expression of racial pride of a majority against a minority, but I must say the evidence of Dr. Olson's study has convinced me that the religious and racial sources are at least equal, and perhaps the religious sources of anti-Semitism may be the more powerful."

In his study, Dr. Olson explored the various sources of anti-Semitism within the religious community by examining the intergroup content of Protestant texts and distinguishing between content which has a negative effect upon intergroup relations and that which has a positive effect. Junior and Senior high school materials and adult programs produced by four different religious publishing houses were analyzed, The Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod; The Council of Liberal Churches (Unitarian and Universalist); Presbyterian Church in USA and the Scripture Press, a non-denominational group used by conservative, evangelical congregations.

The findings presented in Faith and Prejudice represented the most systematic and comprehensive study of its kind ever undertaken of the intergroup content of Protestant curricula and pointed to the critical problem areas for Christians in teaching about Jews and other minority groups.

However, a number of significant developments affecting Jewish-Christian relations took place since 1959 when the study was completed - major church groups issued statements or resolutions on anti-Semitism and the need to improve Christian teaching, the Arab-Israeli War of 1967 and its political crisis remained highly controversial issues, increased tensions developed between Negroes and Jews.

#### 1968 STUDY

Recognizing the need to examine the Protestant response through their educational materials and curriculum planning, to the national and international events which have taken place since 1959, as well as to the historical problems in Jewish-Christian relations, the AJC undertook a one-year research project to determine the scope and impact of the Yale study. The study was guided by the AJC Interreligious Affairs Department which has pioneered the entire field of religious education and prejudice in Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish studies in major universities in the United States, Europe and Latin America.



This project, carried out in 1968, under the direction of Gerald Strober, an extremely qualified and experienced Protestant educator, attempted to determine what changes had been made in Protestant curriculum materials, what problems remained and what were the obstacles impeding the process of revision and reformulation. In addition, Mr. Strober investigated the area of the treatment of Jews and Judaism by Negro Protestants, the first time such a study has been undertaken.

### Project

The Strober study included the following religious publishing houses covering the gamut of the theological spectrum in American Protestantism and focused on curriculum materials produced for youth, young adults, adults and those used in seminaries in the training of the clergy.

United Methodist Church  
Southern Baptist Convention  
Church of Nazarene  
Assemblies of God  
Episcopal Church  
David C. Cook Publishing House  
Scripture Press

United Church of Christ  
United Presbyterian Church, USA  
Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod  
National Baptist Convention  
of America  
National Baptist Convention, USA  
Inc.

Since Christian reactions to the Arab-Israeli War of June 1967 revealed a variety of unsympathetic or negative views toward Israel among some organized church groups which may have been based on pre-disposed theological viewpoints, Mr. Strober also directed his attention to those statements in Protestant materials which would affect attitudes towards the contemporary people and State of Israel.

The materials of the two largest American black denominations were analyzed in an effort to determine if anti-Semitism exists in the materials of Negro Church groups and if it does, is this of the same variety as that found in general Protestant materials or of a different nature.

### Findings

Faith and Prejudice was widely praised in the academic world as a major contribution to scholarly research, and interest in the findings was initially strong among many Protestant groups. However, the impact of the findings was not commensurate with the initial interest in the Olson study.

Changes in curriculum have been inadequate whether due to lack of followup in the denominations, staff turnover, theological problems, budgetary considerations or poor administrative techniques.

The findings of Mr. Strober's analysis of curriculum materials confirmed the hypothesis that certain Biblical and historical themes offer the potential of fostering negative attitudes concerning Jews, Jewish religion and Jewish experience. There is no indication that authors start from an anti-Jewish position with anti-Semitic motivation. Negativism in materials with reference to Jews is the result of a tradition of teaching without regard to positive elements which modern scholarship has revealed.



The treatment of themes such as Judaism, Jesus and his Jewish contemporaries, Jewish rejection of Jesus as the Messiah, the Crucifixion and the first century relationship of Jews and Christians, particularly by conservative publishers, continues to be negative and offers a potential for perpetuating religious and cultural hostility against Jews.

Subjects of genuine significance to Jews such as the work of the Second Ecumenical Council, the spread of Jewish-Christian dialogue, the issuing of statements on anti-Semitism by Protestant bodies and the Arab-Israeli crisis are not at present reflected in Protestant curriculum development.

The texts of White and Negro denominations are about the same in their treatment of Jews.

One encouraging result of the Yale Study, Mr. Strober found in the materials from the Lutheran Church -Missouri Synod which had demonstrated the most negative image of other religious groups in its texts. This group has made the greatest use of the Yale Study being most careful in its revision of its own procedures with reference to content. Its Concordia Publishing House adopted standard procedures which exposed all editors to the Olson study, now required reading for all staff and developed internal and continuing follow up. As a result of continuous scrutiny of materials, this group has made the most dramatic change and has had the most significant intergroup impact upon the development of curriculum

materials.

While other publishing houses have experienced as a result of the Yale Study greater sensitivity to the problems and subtleties of dealing with Jewish content in Christian educational materials, there has not been follow up or implementation to the degree which took place in Concordia Publishing, and it is evident that a major work remains to be done.

#### Achievement

In his stated objective not only to end anti-Semitic group stereotypes and misrepresentations in Protestant religious textbooks, but to develop the presentation of Jewish life and culture in an authentic and positive manner, Mr. Strober has incorporated post-Biblical, Jewish information in his materials so that Christians understand the living Jewish community and contemporary Judaism and become acquainted with ideas of the great Jewish philosophers such as Maimonides and Martin Buber.

Mr. Strober has developed a set of Guidelines for use of textbook writers and editors in handling religious themes which have the potential for creating group stereotypes and fostering anti-Semitism.

As a result of his direct personal consultations with Protestant publishing houses in the interest of developing procedures which would result in conscious follow through, several firms are submitting their materials to Mr. Strober for review and analysis.



Nearly all of the publishing houses are receiving, at their request, resource materials on Jewish life which can be of assistance to editors in handling material about Jewish life in Biblical days and in the present era. Training sessions with their writers are being planned.

The Guidelines developed by Mr. Strober on prejudices in curriculum teaching materials are currently in use as a check list in developing materials relating to the crucial themes in Jewish-Christian relations (Jesus as a Jew, the Crucifixion, etc.), by:

1. Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod (Inclusive Membership: 2,760,000)
2. Board of Education, United Methodists (Division of Curriculum Resources). Adapted the Guidelines and use them as a resource unit of their own for their writers and editors. (Membership: 10,290,000).
3. David C. Cook Publishing House (Major independent conservative publisher). Mr. Strober has been asked as well, to rewrite negative passages and lessons for consideration by editorial personnel. (Constituency includes churches representing seventy denominations).
4. World Council of Churches, Committee on the Church and the Jewish People (Membership: 250 denominations).
5. The Church of the Nazarene, editorial division. (Inclusive membership: 360,000).

Mr. Strober has agreed to act as consultant to the United Methodist Church's Division of Curriculum Resources Board of Education in the revision of materials for use in their high school publications.

A number of Protestant publishers (Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, United Methodist Church, American Baptist Convention) have requested Mr. Strober to review their manuscripts prior to publication, an undertaking Mr. Strober has accepted. Of greater significance is the fact that in the instance of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, Mr. Strober met recently in St. Louis with 60 writers and editors currently considering an entirely new curriculum to be instituted in the 1970's. This meeting also provided an opportunity to address the group on Jewish content in Protestant curriculum. Thus, there will be consistent follow through in the preparation and review of the manuscripts prior to publication - an important "first" in this field. Similarly, the American Baptist Convention (inclusive membership: 1,455,000) ; Disciples of Christ (Inclusive Membership: 1,850,000) will be sending Mr. Strober for his review a significant portion of their new curriculum.

Mr. Strober is also scheduled to meet with a group working on planning vacation church school curriculum, sponsored by the National Council of Churches. He will act as a consultant on intergroup content for new educational materials being prepared for all age levels. These materials will be utilized in a variety of settings other than the traditional Sunday morning period.



Additional requests for Mr. Strober's assistance have been projected through 1970 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches for their curriculum planning meetings. This group will be sending as well beginning in January, 1970 their manuscript materials for Mr. Strober's review prior to publication. In March, 1970, Mr. Strober has been invited to participate in the deliberations of a committee working on a cooperative curriculum for seventeen denominations.

#### Publication

A report of the study undertaken by Mr. Strober is approaching completion and due for publication in the coming months. It will include:

1. An examination of the impact of Faith and Prejudice.
2. An exposition of the Guidelines Mr. Strober developed, for evaluation.
3. A treatment of current curriculum materials with examples and excerpts demonstrating the negative and positive development of materials.

The pilot study program formulated for one year was terminated the end of 1968. Mr. Strober has continued his project in 1969 under a special grant from the AJC and has been able to initiate a minimal program of implementation of the findings of his study.

## Conclusions

There exists a great need for creating among Protestant church groups a sense of priority about Jewish-Christian relations. This applies not only to erasing old negative images of Jews which are presented in Biblical themes but also in respect to modern events such as categorical rejection of anti-Semitism by Protestant bodies, Christian response to Israel and the Middle East crisis, and fruitful Jewish-Christian dialogue.

AJC believes that the general climate among Christian groups points to a greater openness toward cooperation between religious text editors and an analyst who can evaluate the intergroup content of materials. We feel that Mr. Strober has proved himself to be uniquely qualified for this role. His past experience also would allow him to institute an ongoing system of follow-ups for church groups, boards of education, publishing houses and seminaries by providing ongoing consultation with professional staffs and leadership of the Protestant community. Eventually, such a set of procedures would become self-perpetuating.

The initial reactions to the findings of Mr. Strober's study and his Guidelines mirror his careful and exhaustive research, his religious and educational training and his close relationship with Protestant denominational staff. (See attached letters from national and international Christian education bodies.) Clearly, he has demonstrated the great potential for bringing about needed



and long overdue change.

Toward this end the AJC proposes a three-year project which will allow Mr. Strober with appropriate research and consultative staff to bring the full impact of his knowledge and ability to bear on the complex problems of the intergroup content of Christian teaching materials.

#### PROPOSED PROJECT

##### 1. Established Programs

Mr. Strober will continue his assistance to the thirteen publishing houses which constituted the initial panel for the study done in 1968, reviewing curriculum, manuscripts, etc. There are another twenty publishing houses to be contacted.

##### 2. Development of Relationships with Denominational Professional Staff

Meetings will be organized with major Protestant denominations throughout the country, specifically the professional staff responsible for formulating educational policy and producing educational materials.

Mr. Strober in his consultations, will correlate the general findings of his study to their individual curriculum materials and recommend necessary changes. Mr. Strober will further attempt to establish a systematic process of review by the church group itself so that individuals sensitized to the intergroup implications of Christian education will be given responsibility within that particular group to review materials and to provide guidelines for lesson

writers. Until such programs can be constituted, Mr. Strober will be available for review of manuscript materials and for consultations on new projects which involve intergroup, specifically Jewish, content.

### 3. Preparation of Syllabus Materials

Model treatments consistent with the theological position of the particular group will be prepared by Mr. Strober after his analysis of the specific materials. Moreover, denominational educators will be provided with Jewish source materials, bibliography, audio-visual aids or other educational resources.

### 4. Christian Seminaries

Preliminary contacts concerning the study of Protestant Seminary curricula demonstrate a favorable response and should receive systematic consideration. While a number of Christian seminaries have added elective courses in subjects such as "Contemporary Jewish Thought," "Introduction of Judaism," etc., such courses - though they are to be welcomed - may have little or no effect on the core curriculum. Thus, a momentary positive impact of a course on Judaism may be cancelled out by the traditional, negative treatment of core subjects such as doctrine and church history.

What is needed is a way of working the new insights and findings of Faith and Prejudice augmented by Mr. Strober's 1968 study,



into the central educational procedures of Christian seminaries.

This requires a consistent effort by a responsible individual who is qualified to analyze the core curriculum, the text materials used, the supplementary readings and to offer specific correctives. Exploratory discussions with denominational officials as well as seminary administrators, indicate that cooperation from the Protestant community in such a study would be forthcoming.

5. Development of Working Relationships with Protestant Interdenominations' Groups

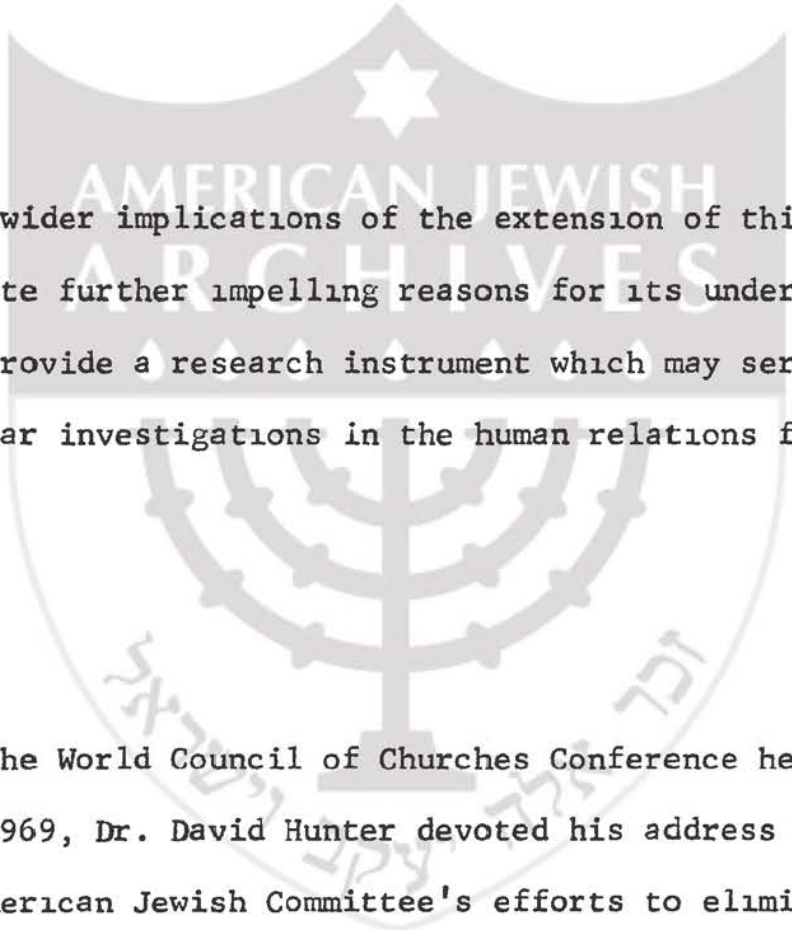
Efforts will be made to develop consultative relationships with educational divisions of major Protestant interdenominational bodies, such as the National Council of Churches, the National Association of Evangelicals and the World Council of Churches.

6. Development of New Agendas

Issues of contemporary importance to the Jewish community will be directed to the attention of Christian educators suggesting the need for textbooks and seminary curricula to explore Jewish concerns involving the State of Israel and the Middle East as well as the status of American Jewry vis-a-vis other minority groups.

The increase in American-Christian sympathy for the Arab cause, the involvement of major Christian bodies in the dissemination of Arab propaganda and the Christian response to the Black-Jewish tensions provide the backdrop for this aspect of concentrated

attention. The continuing negative portrait of Jewish life and religion in Protestant curricula acts to form a theological undergirding which can legitimize racial, sociological, political and economic manifestations of anti-Jewish prejudices.



The wider implications of the extension of this project demonstrate further compelling reasons for its undertaking. It will provide a research instrument which may serve as a model for similar investigations in the human relations field.

At the World Council of Churches Conference held in Geneva in May, 1969, Dr. David Hunter devoted his address to a report of the American Jewish Committee's efforts to eliminate prejudice in Protestant religious teachings, commending the Committee for its undertaking the Olson and Strober studies. Dr. Hunter said, "this new study, like the original Olson study, is indicative of the careful, scholarly and restrained approach which that responsible Jewish institution has made to the blight of anti-Semitism in the U.S.A."



PROTESTANT TEXTBOOK AND CURRICULUM PROJECT  
THREE YEAR BUDGET

	<u>1st year</u>	<u>2nd year</u>	<u>3rd year</u>
Administration			
Program Director	18,000	19,500	21,000
Research Associate	8,500	9,100	9,700
Secretary to Director	6,500	6,760	7,000
Secretary to Associate (part time)	3,650	3,800	3,930
Sub-Total salaries	<u>36,650</u>	<u>39,160</u>	<u>41,630</u>
Fringe Benefits @ 9%	3,299	3,525	3,747
Total	<u>39,949</u>	<u>42,685</u>	<u>45,377</u>
Office Supplies, Telephone, Postage	1,500	1,500	1,500
Travel	6,500	6,500	6,500
Consultation (Manuscript Revision)	5,000	5,000	5,000
Publications	5,000	5,000	5,000
Conferences	5,000	5,000	5,000
Resource Materials	2,500	2,500	2,500
Development of Resources (Educational Materials, Aids, Films)	10,000	10,000	10,000
Seminary Curriculum Study	7,500	15,000	15,000
Implementation and follow-up Conferences			15,000
Publication and Distribution			15,000
Contingency Fund (10%)	<u>7,295</u>	<u>9,319</u>	<u>12,588</u>
Annual Total:	80,244	102,504	138,465
Total for Three Year Project:	\$ 321,213		



# national council of the churches of christ in the u s a

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ARTHUR S FLEMMING, PRESIDENT

R H EDWIN ESPY GENERAL SECRETARY

June 26, 1969

Rev. Gerald S. Strober  
Consultant in Religious Curricula  
The American Jewish Committee  
Institute of Human Relations  
165 E. 56th St  
New York, N. Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Strober

This letter is a summary of my understanding of what we agreed upon in our recent conversation.

First of all, you may be assured that both Mr. Wismer and I share your basic objectives of enabling persons in the Christian tradition learn to appreciate and accept the traditions of others and to be true to the best in their own tradition in terms of relating to others, so that each may learn to love his neighbor as himself.

Secondly, we agreed that we would keep you informed of meetings of curriculum planning committees so that you could be present, both in order to establish relationships with editors and writers in the denominations, and also to contribute your expertise in the planning process itself.

Thirdly, we will endeavor to make it possible for you to see the manuscripts of materials being produced cooperatively in order that you might help us to evaluate their accuracy and their helpfulness in terms of inter-group relations.

When we speak of curriculum resources, of course we are thinking in terms of multi-media resources, so that you might evaluate not only printed materials but recorded materials and pictures both still and moving.

It was indeed a pleasure to dine with you and we look forward to continuing collaboration and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

*Paul B. Maves*

Paul B. Maves, Associate Executive Director  
Dept. of Educational Development  
PBM/jvn  
cc Eli Wismer



# *Board of Education • The United Methodist Church*

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## DIVISION OF CURRICULUM RESOURCES

201 EIGHTH AVENUE SOUTH NASHVILLE TENNESSEE 37203

TELEPHONE (615) 242 1621

HENRY M. BULLOCK  
EDITOR OF CHURCH SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS  
GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE DIVISION

March 31, 1969

WALTER N. VERNON  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE AND  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR OF  
GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

Mr. Gerald Strober  
Consultant in Religious Curricula  
The American Jewish Committee  
165 East 56th Street  
New York, New York 10022

Dear Mr. Strober:

I have been checking with our editors about ways in which we could try to relate to your work and your concerns, and have some responses that I want to relay on to you.

Two of our editors would be glad to have from you a list of guidelines or suggestions that could be put in the hands of writers. Let me mention again that we will be having a number of small groups meeting, and that it would not be worth your while to make repeated trips for such small groups. If we were having meetings of large groups, then it might be worth your coming to Nashville, but until we plan such a meeting, I doubt that we would want to ask you to make numerous trips here to talk with one or two persons. We might also not be able to give a major block of time, which I believe would be necessary to justify your coming. This does not mean that we are minimizing the task, but simply are trying to think of the best way to get it done.

Another of our editors, the Rev Charles E. Cole, would like to ask you to serve as a consultant to read and criticize a unit that appeared last fall in one of our high school publications, and which we are revising for re-use in 1970. He indicates that in the present material he is not satisfied that we have focused on the identity of Jews and their relations to Christians. If you would be willing to serve as a consultant, we could send you the unit as it appeared last fall and indicate the questions we have about the issue regarding Jewish-Christian concerns. We would hope this would be something that would seem to be a valid service to us on your part.

I trust you are doing well. Best wishes.

Sincerely,

*Walter N. Vernon*  
Walter N. Vernon

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July 8, 1969

Mr. Gerald Strober  
Institute of Human Relations  
The American Jewish Committee  
165 East 56 Street  
New York, New York 10022

Dear Gerald

Thanks for your letter of June 30 giving me the name of Bob Adams. I just returned to the office today and found your letter waiting for me. I appreciate getting Bob's address and plan to write him right away.

Thanks, too, for your presentation at our workshop. I believe it will prove to be very helpful--both to our media creators and also to those of us who are editors.

I hope to be able to put in some concentrated work on the dissertation in the next two weeks and, hopefully, may even be able to complete it. When it is finally approved--hopefully, this fall--I'll send you either a complete copy or at least an abstract.

Thanks again for everything!

Sincerely,

Earl H. Gaulke  
Editor, Sunday School Materials

EHG:gm



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30th July, 1969.

Mr. Gerald S. Strober  
American Jewish Committee  
165, East 56th Street  
New York, N.Y. 10022  
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Strober,

Thank you very much for your letter. Please feel free to use my report as you wish. I find myself that this is only a kind of interim progress report, but does not go sufficiently into details in some of the issues which have been raised in it.

The comments were interesting; there were some who wanted to stress the particular Jewish-Christian relationship and rightly so, while others felt that the last point I made is neglected and ought to be developed further.

The mention of a possible letter to member churches is finalized. The first reaction was that it should probably begin with an introduction of what statement have been made and how this has been implemented. Then it might suggest ways of approaching the question. Here I think your questionnaire would be most helpful. Thirdly it should contain a list of some of the most important publications.

I do not think that the attitudes and information can be completely separated, but it is work on different levels. However, it might be worthwhile publishing a study paper similar to the French, produced by Prof. Lovsky, as a help to pursue this matter.

I shall keep you informed about the development, and would be grateful for comments you would wish to make or any observations you have during your further study in this field.

With all good wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

*Anker Gjerding*  
Anker Gjerding

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S NICKLIN

Dear Gerry,

How right you are. While it hardly seems possible that three-quarters of a year have passed since Toronto, it seems almost equally impossible that a whole month has past since I received your very welcome letter of July 1st, with which you were good enough to enclose a copy of the Annotated List of audio-visual aids "On Jews and Judaism".

We are very glad to have this, which I am passing to our Librarian, Mrs. Joan Lawrence. It may be that some time she will write to you for further information about particular items - or perhaps even to ask for a copy, or the loan of one or other of them.

I am so glad Marc Tanenbaum has told you something of our, as yet, rather vague proposals for an International Educators Conference next year. We are beginning to get down to some of the preparatory thinking and planning, as I will see that you are kept in touch. I think I have a copy of your Guide Lines which David Hunter presented with his own paper on "Religious Education and Prejudices" which he prepared for a private Consultation between a group of Christian and Jewish leaders which took place in Geneva in June, under the auspices of the World Council of Churches.

It is an extremely interesting, and from our point of view - by way of model - very valuable paper, of which I hope we shall be able to make good use.

It is a great joy to be in touch with you again. I still have very vivid memories of our Toronto encounter, and look forward eagerly to "the next time".

With warmest regards,  
Yours very sincerely,

*Bill Simpson*

Dictated personally but signed in absence  
as Mr. Simpson left the office for a short vacation  
before this letter was ready for signature

PW

Dr. Gerald Strober,  
American Jewish Committee,  
Institute of Human Relations,  
165 East 56 Street,  
New York, N.Y. 10022