A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ANTI-SEMITISM AND IN SOLIDARITY WITH VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

WHEREAS on October 27, 2018, a white nationalist opened fire during a Shabbat service at the Tree of Life Or L'Simcha Synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA, killing 11 Jewish individuals, including one Holocaust survivor, and wounding four others¹;

WHEREAS though anti-Semitism has an extensive history, 2017 saw a nearly 60 percent increase in reported anti-Semitic incidents, including the Charlottesville, VA "Unite the Right" rally, on top of a 35 percent increase the year before²;

WHEREAS FBI hate crime statistics for 2016, the most recent year available, show that more than half of reported anti-religious hate crimes in the United States were motivated by anti-Semitism³;

WHEREAS social media platforms have shown a sustained increase in anti-Semitic content among alt-right white nationalists since President Trump's 2016 election, and this is exacerbated for queer Jews and Jews of color⁴;

WHEREAS there have been 293 mass shooting events in the United States in 2018 so far, along with a total of 346 in 2017, many of which have involved semi-automatic weapons⁵;

WHEREAS gun violence disproportionately impacts marginalized communities and communities of color⁶;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the 2018-19 Undergraduate Students Associated Council (USAC) unequivocally condemns anti-Semitism in all forms and stands with the Jewish community on and off campus.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the USAC will continue to organize against gun violence and in support of sensible gun violence prevention legislation.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2018/10/27/pittsburgh-police-responding-active-shooting-squirrel-hill-area/?utm_term=.6526b2058d82

²https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2018/10/pittsburgh-synagogue-comes-amid-surge-anti-semiticism/574180/

³ Ibid (The Atlantic)

⁴https://www.adl.org/resources/reports/computational-propaganda-jewish-americans-and-the-2018-midter ms-the-amplification#conclusion

⁵ https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/reports/mass-shooting

⁶ https://www.cnn.com/2018/04/23/health/gun-deaths-in-men-by-state-study/index.html

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the USAC condemns all instances of identity-based intolerance and violence and stands in solidarity with the marginalized communities who are often targeted.

LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED that the USAC reiterates its commitment to fighting against anti-Semitism, xenophobia, and intolerance at UCLA and beyond.