

The American Jewish Lobby's Method of Influence on American Politics

Sadek Meriem Dalila *

University of Oran 2 Mohamed Ben Ahmed; Algeria

Submission date: 29/05/2021 Acceptance date: 09/01/2022 Publication date: 01/03/2022

Abstract:

To defend the Jewish cause throughout the world, the American Jews created a bloc of lobbyists called the American Jewish lobby, political organizations and individuals devoting themselves to lobby for the interests of the Jews. Moreover, it allowed the American Jews to influence U.S. government in pro-Israel direction and strengthen the relation with Israel. However, to reach its objectives, the lobby used strategic methods as influencing law-makers, supporting presidential elections, dominating the public discourse, and sitting in the American congress. The present work, therefore, will try to mention the different methods used by the lobbyists to implement their political agenda.

Keywords: America; Israel; Influence; the Interests, the Jewish Lobby; Pro-Israel.

* Corresponding author.

Introduction:

The Jews, who entered America in the first decade of the nineteenth century poor and homeless, interacted with America and its culture and reached a comfortable social and economic status. The rapid development of the economic status achieved by the Jews in America allowed them to gain a position of power in the American political arena. They created a strong political body called the Jewish lobby to defend the rights of the Jews all over the world and to better serve Israel's interests.

In its initial activities, the Jewish lobby couldn't realize its objectives effectively due to the lack of the Jewish voting power. The absence of this latter was due to the little number of Jews in the Jewish community existing in the United States and even when the number of the Jews prospered, the voices of the new population could help the Jewish lobby only after it obtained its voting right. However, once the American Jews could collect a sufficient number of voters, their political goal started to be achieved. Strongly supported by U.S. government, Israel survival depended on its special relationship with America. The 3 billion foreign aid destined to Israel each year until nowadays is the result of the efforts made by the Jewish Lobby to influence the American government to support Israel.¹ In addition to that, in 2004, when four presidential candidates debated the issue of security "John Edward²", a democrat and one of the four candidates

¹ Raphael Meddof, Jewish American and Political Participation, ABC-CLIO, Inc Santa Barbara, California,p.211.

² John Edward is a figure in American politics , former North Carolina Senator, but whose career was compromised by a scandal that made echoe in the democratic party. He is 68, a democratic party's candidate for vice president in 2004, running with Massachusetts Senator against John Kerry against president George W. Bush and vice president Dick Cheney. However, Edwards lost the election and he returned in 2008 ,but failed because of his extra marital relation with a woman called Rielle Hunter when his wife, Elizabeth was enduring a terminal breast cancer. She immediately asked to divorce before she died. This affair destroyed his political career preventing him from winning the election. Chris Tognotti, Whatever Happened to John Edwards, available at: <https://www.bustle.com/articles/121572-whatever-happened-to-john-edwards-the-north-carolina-senators-fall-from-grace-was-quick-absolute>, November 5, 2015.

stated as follows: “your future is our future” and added “the bounds between the United States and Israel will never be broken”¹.

Nowadays the Jewish lobby remains the most successful ethnic group in the United States, but how the lobby could reach this position of power and make the relationship so strong with Israel? And how America would help the Jewish state even if it is at the expense of the U.S. national interests?

To grasp the mechanism of the Jewish lobby would be systematically to think about the basic questions that I will try to answer in this research work. This study is divided into two parts, the first part is entitled the definition of the Jewish lobby, it will try to define the Jewish lobby and the importance of its existence for the wellbeing of the Jewish state and the Jews over the world. The second part entitled the methods of influence; it will examine the different strategic methods of pressure the lobby uses to put into effect its policy.

1. Defining the Jewish Lobby.

Sometimes called the Israel lobby, the American Jewish lobby is identified as a number of political organizations in the United States performing great efforts to lobby for their interests and the interests of their homeland Israel. They operated in politics, public policy, international affairs, and the Medias.

When talking about the Jewish lobby, the commentators referred to the three major institutions in mind, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the Conference of Major American Organization (CMAO), and a net of Zionist group.²

¹Jhon J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt, *The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy*, Farrar Straus Giroux, 2007,p.4.

² Ian J. Bikerton, Carla L. Klausner, *A History of the Arab- Israel Conflict*, Pearson Education, Inc, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, 2007, p.214

The most significant organization is the (AIPAC). It was founded in 1954 and considered as the most influential registered lobby organization. It is based in Washington and works as a Clearinghouse relating committees for Jewish organizations and groups aiming to have their views considered by various executive branches and federal government. The second institution which is the Conference of Major American Organization was founded in 1955, and situated in New York as a strong representative of the Jewish opinion. The third one is the Zionist Group which participates to consolidate the public support to Israel.¹

The other important lobbying organizations are the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, the Anti-Defamation League, and the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, Israel Policy Forum, New Israel Fund, and the Zionist Organization of America.² It is important to note that the Jewish Lobby is not a hierarchical organization with defined membership. There are no membership cards or initiation rites. It is identified as a political body consisted of numerous organizations devoting their efforts to influence the U.S. government and the American public to support Israel politically and economically.

There are other groups and individuals who support the activities of the lobby, but they are not potentially active as the groups and individuals who are part of the lobby as (AIPAC), or (ADL) the Anti-Defamation League, and (CUFI) the Christians United for Israel. As a result, not any supporter of the Israel Lobby is part of the lobby. These people are regarded as the broader network of supporters. The lobbying organizations work hard to run the U.S. foreign policy in favor of Israel. In this sense, each one of these organizations consecrates a considerable amount of resources and time to this cause. They must spend enough money to influence U.S. Middle East

¹ Ian J. Bikerton, Carla L. Klausner, op.cit., p.214.

² Ibp USA, *Israel Lobby in the United States. Strategic Information, Organization and Operations*, International Business Publications, USA Washington, DC USA, 2009, p. 24.

policy. ¹It is important to add to the idea mentioned above that within different organizations there are people who do not agree on every issue that concerns Israel. For example, the case of the two-states solution between Israel and Palestine.

There are individuals as Norton Klein of ZOA and John Hagee of CUFI and Rael Jean Isaac of Americans for a Safe Israel opposed this solution, claiming that the majority or most of the occupied territories must belong to Israel. Other members as Dennis Ross of WINEP and Martin Indy of the Brookings Institution rejected the other lobbying organization action towards the Palestinian cause. However, although the differences of attitudes that these people have in different situations, they are united under the struggle for the welfare of Israel. All of them work actively to push the American diplomatic, military and economic support in direction of Israel. ²

1.1 Informal lobbying

The Israel lobby is composed of two lobbying activities, the formal lobby and the informal lobby. The informal lobby consists of American Christians of all denominations and other Jewish groups. In 2006, an article in London Review of books, professors Mearsheimer and Stephan Walt wrote:³

In its basic operations, the Israel lobby is not different from the farm lobby steel or textile worker's unions or other ethnic lobbies there is nothing improper about American Jews and their Christians allies attempting to sway US policy. The lobbies activities are not a conspiracy of the sort depicted in tracts like the Protocols of elders Zions. For the most part, the individuals and groups that comprise it are only doing what other special interest groups do, but doing very much better, by

¹ Jhon Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt, op.cit.,p.113-114.

² Ibid.,p.114.

³ Global Investment Center ,The Jewish Lobby in the United States : a Hand Book, Washington DC USA,2009,p.12.

contrast, pro-Israel interest groups in so far as they exist at all, are weak which makes the Israel lobby's task even easier¹.

It also refers to the direct method by which voting and the American public opinion impact on U.S. Middle East policy as Bard defined it. The informal lobby is concerned with the Christians support for Israel which operates in different news coverage and the broadcasting network as TV and the internet.²

1.2The formal lobby.

The formal lobby includes Jewish groups that lobby directly for the American Jews and their homeland Israel. Among the formal lobbying groups , The Christians United for Israel, the largest pro-Israel lobby , the American Israel Public Affairs Committee(AIPAC) which lobbies directly the U.S. congress, the Conference of president Major American Jewish Organization which represents the main contact between the Jewish community and the executive branch of the U.S. government.³

The impact of the Evangelical Christians on Middle East policy is as potential as AIPAC is so effective in this domain. According to Michael Goldberg the author of “ Kingdom Coming: The Rise of Christian Nationalism” that the powerful bloc of lobbying works hard to lobby the executive branch by transmitting the views of the American Jewish community and the other smaller pro-Israel lobby. Adding to that writers and scholars, John Mearshiemer and Stephen Walt refer to all the formal Jewish lobby as those organizations working together for the wellbeing of Israel and for preserving the U.S. Israel relationship. ⁴

¹ Global Investment Center,op.cit.,p.12.

²Ibid.

³Ibid., p.13

⁴ Ibid.

1.3The Origin of the Lobby's Power.

Basically, it was considered that the success of the lobby depends essentially on some factors that made it so effective. The fact that America is known for its traditional liberty of expression in one hand and its costly elections in another hand made some interests groups influence policy differently. Many of them are eager to lead electoral campaign supporting candidates and defeating others, they can also influence members of the legislative branch and elected representatives. Moreover, they wield public opinion by generating sympathy from journalists, books, and articles. The other point which empowered the lobby is that even if the interest group is small, defending an important cause and the public opinion doesn't oppose the lobby's commitment to this issue, makes the members of the congress support it.¹

According to some American specialists as Henry Fairlie, a London Time article in 1981, the Jewish lobby in America is called the American lobby. The power of the Jewish lobby resides in the geographical location of the Jewish community and the voter turnout in the presidential election. Adding to that, the financial donation granted by the Jews to the presidential candidate.²

The effectiveness of the Jewish lobby in the competition for influence in the United States is also due to higher education and income. Most political activists have the skills and material resources to participate effectively and tend to take greater interests in politics. Political influence in the United States is related to economic status. Besides, what strengthens the lobby's political influence is its potential membership, well trained professional stuff, specialized groups for particular problems ,welfare, political programs, elaborate internal communications networks and the number of

¹John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M.Walt.,op.cit.p.140 .

² Norman H. Finkelstein, American Jewish History :AJPS Guide, Jewish Publication Society, Philadelphia, United States,2010,p.182.

organizations operating at local and national level. All these characteristics shape the good image of the lobby, in the United States.¹

In addition to all the factors mentioned above, the lack of a serious opposition to the lobby is another source of power. The Arab lobby that oppose the Israel lobby lacks wealth and organization as Mitchell Bard, the former editor of AIPAC's Near East Report stated:²

“From the beginning, the Arab lobby has faced not only a disadvantage in electoral politics but also in organization. There are several politically oriented groups, but many of these are one-man operation with little financial or popular support.”³

2.The Methods of Influence

There are different methods of influence that the lobby uses to influence the American government in order to support Israel , among these methods is as follows:

2.1 Influencing the Law-makers.

As far as lobbying is concerned, influencing the decision-makers is one of the major sources of the lobby's power. To reach their objectives, the lobbyists exert their influence on the executive branch that has the power to implement the laws and take important diplomatic and military decisions. Following some lobbying activities, the American Jewish lobby was at the origin of the great decisions taken by the leadership of America as the Syrian Israel agreement, the American support to Veto Security Council. condemnation of Israel's retaliatory raids, and the Camp David Peace Treaty.

¹Jhon Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt,op.cit.,p.140 -141.

²Ibid., p.141.

³Ibid.

It is important to note that most American presidents generated sympathy to Israel according to electoral cycle and public opinion as it was the case of president Wilson who supported the Balfour Declaration. Moreover, influencing the White House is assuring a real success as it is illustrated in the words of Avraham Harman:¹

In the process of persuading, human beings are open to all kinds of Influences. One of the most important influences, especially in large country like the United States, which is struggling with huge problems ,is gaining a man's time. It is not that you are trying to persuade him to do something against his will, his interest or the American interests. It is a question of competing for his time. If there is somebody like Abe Feinberg who has access to the President, doesn't overstay his welcome or abuse it, but reserves use of this access to matters of greatest importance, then he has gained Presidential attention on this matter. That is important. If you go through diplomatic channels, the information gets- there- eventually. . . .²

Another point is that, it was clearly revealed by American presidents that opposing the American Jewish lobby is destroying one political carrier as it happened with Jimmy Carter who complained that his failure at his reelection was due to a pressure exerted by special interests groups. In addition to that, there is another remarkable method of lobbying used by the lobbyists, the president's advisers who play a central role in influencing the head of state's decisions. Those advisers may be experts, bureaucrats and friends. However, sometimes, the advises of these individuals may trouble the president in the sense that he will be confused with which advise he should choose. In case that the president has a strong opinion about an issue, the adviser cannot change his mind about it, but if the opinion of the

¹ Mitchell Geoffrey Bard, *The Water's Edge and Beyond*, Transaction publishers New Brunswick, New Jersey (USA) and London (UK) 1991,p.121-122.

²*Ibid.*,p.122.

president is weak, he may be easily influenced by outsiders that is interest groups as the Jewish lobby. ¹

2.2.Supporting presidential Elections

The other method of influence that empowered the American Jewish lobby is its strong support to presidential elections. Among the major reasons for the importance of this support is the fear of the candidate of failure due to opposing the lobby's interests. Consequently, any policy relating to the Middle East and contesting Israel became inactive.

It's what AIPAC stressed by the 1980's that issues concerning Israel must be the center of interests of national campaign particularly in congress.² Not only, the lobbyists give their voices to candidates who are pro-Israel but also support their campaigns by granting them potential donations.

This phenomenon was illustrated in the words of Hamilton Jordan, the presidential advisor and former White House chief of Staff who said as follows³: <<Whenever there is a major fundraising in this country, you will find American Jews playing a significant role.>>⁴

The candidates who are unfriendly to Israel see the American Jews support given to their adversaries. Moreover, the fact of simply giving opinion or view against Israel may compromise their political carriers. This is what happen with the candidate Howard Dean in 2004 when he had just advised the U.S. government to take a more "even-handed role" in the Arab-Israel conflict. Dean's recommendation made echo in the American Jewish lobby which qualified him as hostile towards Israel, although he was pro-Israel and his wife was a Jew. The statement of Dean shows that any idea

¹ Ibid.,p.126.

² Michael Thomas, American Policy towards Israel, Rutledge Taylor and Francis Group, London and New York, 2007,p.14.

³ John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt, op .cit .,p. 163.

⁴ Ibid.

that turns over the Arab-Israel conflict is not welcomed even if it is a mere observation.¹

Most voters register as Democrats with a minority of Republicans, and all the candidates supporting Israel are backed by the American Jewish vote as it happened with Senator Gary Hart who supported Reverend Jess Jackson.

This later criticized the Jews who considered him as anti-Semitic. Consequently, the Jews favored former Vice President Walter Mondale² over Hart in the New York primary. By his inclination to the Jews, Mondale gained their support for four years. In 1980, Jimmy Carter by his Mideast policy lost the support of the Jews. Similarly for Regan who obtained only 32% ,while Modal gained 66% of the American Jewish vote.³

The same attitude was reproduced with Bush because of his Secretary James Baker who had executed Mideast policy was viewed by the Jews as pro-Arab. Adding to that, Bush overtly showed his anti Jewish feeling which decreased his Jewish vote. Unlike these candidates, Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton was largely advocated by the Jewish voters because his party was in pro-Israel direction. As a result, he gained 80% to 85% of the Jewish vote. The level of vote reached by Clinton proved to be the

¹ Ibid.,p.141.

² Walter Mondale is an American Democrat, born in January 5, 1928, in Ceylon, Minnesota. He graduated from the university of Minnesota. He served in U.S. Army as a corporal from 1951 to 1953. From 1956 to 1960 he practiced as a private lawyer and in the period between 1960 and 1964 he was appointed as an Attorney General of Minnesota. In a democratic speech, in 1984, he proposed that he could raise taxes to reduce budget deficit, but he was defeated by Colorado Sen. Gary in the New Hampshire in primary 1984. In 2002, he became the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party's candidate, but Noam Coleman won the election. In 2008, he was nominated as Norway's honorary Counsel for Minnesota, but in 2010 he resigned from this office ,CNN Library, Walter Mondale Fast Facts: available at <https://edition.cnn.com/2013/08/30/us/walter-mondale-fast-facts/index.html>,December 15, 2017.

³ Rafael Medoff,op.cit,p.200.

highest since Lyndon Johnson who obtained 90% in 1964 against Barry Goldwater. Moreover, even in 1996, the success of Clinton was due to the fact that he generated sympathy to the American Jews, whereas Senator Robert Dole who asked U.S. government to reduce aid to Israel and criticized Israel for the Islamic terrorism in Lebanon who kidnapped and killed an American lost support of the Jews.

Similarly, the first lady Hillary Clinton against Conservative Republican congressman, Rick Lazio. Hillary won 53% of the Jewish vote which assured her victory over Lazio.¹

The other factor that increases the voter turnout of the American Jews is their concentration in key states as California, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey and New York, representing 10% of the whole population. This observation was stated in the words of Jeffry Helmreich who declared as follows²:

<< American Jewish voters maintain the potential to be the decisive factor in national election results....American Jews wield power through their high concentration in key states and their tendency to behave as a swing vote in ways that set them apart from virtually all other groups in American politics.>>³

Another point is that the lobbyists are more interested in the Capitol Hill rather than in the White House because they claimed that they have more time to expose their issues in the Capitol Hill rather than with the president that may allow them just one hour. They also focused their attention on the congress because they noticed that this political body is potentially active in foreign policy.⁴

¹ Ibid.,p.205-207.

²John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt,op.cit,p.163.

³ Ibid.,p.163.

⁴ Mitchell Geoffrey Bard,op.cit,p.32 .

It is important to note that the influence of the lobby can oppose the president's decision as one Jewish leader Earl Raab declared¹: << As a political force, the Jews will be able to exert influence over American foreign policy to the extent that their influence is wielded in the direction of what American public official considers the best interests of the United States.>>² The statement of Earl Raab demonstrated clearly that the influence of the lobby may limit the power of the president that is it took supremacy over the presidential decision.³

2.3 Influencing Public Discourse and the Media

Dominating the public opinion is another method of influence that the American Jewish lobby focused on.

Few years before the creation of the Israeli state in 1943, Peter Bergson, a Zionist and activist politician came from Palestine and created a collaboration of journalists and actors and produced a literal coup de theatre. They produced the pageant called "we shall never die" played beneath forty-two-foot tablets of the Ten Commandments, this movie affected public opinion and influenced the creation of the future national Jewish homeland.⁴

It was reported by Eric Alterman, the CUNY professor of journalism that in 2002 there were 56 columnists and commentators devoting their supports to Israel and the people who criticized it counted only five persons. It was also reported that in 2006 the interest groups were very active on the internet, they reserved a software called a megaphone where Israeli diplomats recommended by the foreign ministry to reserve a website for the lobbyists to put their messages in order to defend the cause of Israel.⁵ This phenomenon was commented by Chris William as follows: <<Whoever it

¹ Ibid.,p.34.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ David Shoenbaum, *The United State and the States of Israel*, New York, Oxford University Press,1993,p.27.

⁵ Ibid.

used, megaphone is effectively a high-tech exercise in ballot stuffing, we're calling it lobbyware.>>¹

There are two important newspapers, the New York Time and the Washington Post which defended the cause of Israel. Nowadays, the columnists who consecrated their writing to the Middle East, William Safire. A. M. Rosenthal, David Brooks, Thomas L. Freidman, Nicholas D. Kristol ,et Maureen Dowd. All these columnists wrote about American foreign policy, but never supported the Palestinian cause even if at certain moments some of them were critical to Israel. The columnists who potentially advocated the Israeli cause, Jim Hoagland, Robert Kagan, Charles Krauthammer, George Will, Michael Kelly, and William Kristol. However, the only outstanding columnist who dared to oppose Israel by his critics and support Palestine is Robert Novak. ²

It is important to note that the lobbyists made great efforts to control the journalists who wrote in an anti-Israel context to the point that they orchestrated writing letters, demonstrations, and boycott protesting against those who are against Israel. This fact was denounced by the CNN executive who claimed that he received per day six thousands e-mail messages for all the anti- Israel writing. They even boycotted some papers as the Chicago Tribune, the Los Angeles Time, and the Miami Herald.³

It was considered that in the American society two points of view had been developed towards the Jews concerning the media. The first one developed by the non-Jews who think that the American Jewish power resides in their domination of the mass media, the second view declared by the Jews themselves consider that the mass media is a source of anti-Semitism.

¹ Ibid.

² Jhon J.Mearsheimer and Stephen M.Walt, op.cit.,P.170-171.

³ Ibid.,p.172 .

In fact, studies revealed that the Jews consisted fewer than 5 percent of the working press nationwide population representing about fourth or more of the writers, and producers in America's elite media including network news divisions, the top newsweeklies and the four leaders papers, New York Time, Los Angeles Time, Washington Post and Wall Street Journal¹. Adding to that, Eugene Fisher, a director of Catholic -Jewish relation at the National Conference of Catholic Bishop declared as follows:<<If there is Jewish power, it's the power of the word, the power of the Jewish columnists and Jewish opinion makers.>>²

Another point is that, in defending the American Jewish journalists to be a supporter of Israel, Stephen D. Isaacs former journalist, dean at Columbia University and author of Jews and American Politics considered that in journalism as in politics being a Jew is not a reference that makes a Jew who promoted in politics and makes a high priority to the Jewish concern as it was illustrated in his words:

<<Jews in the media tends to be disproportionately what I call apostate Jews, apostate Jew are attracted to all sorts of businesses that allow them to cross over and not be Jewish. By being a journalist, a Jew can't be Jewish because journalism requires a certain distance. You can't be tribal or racial and also be a hands-off journalist.>>³

2.4 Campaign Donation and Financial Figure.

Adding to all the methods of influence mentioned above which strengthened the lobbying body, the American Jews thought about another potential means of influence, the financial political contribution that is Campaign donation.

¹J.J. Goldberg, Jewish Power Inside the American Jewish Establishment, Library of Congress, United States,1996,p.279-280.

² Ibid.,p.280.

³ Ibid.

It was revealed that out of 125 member of the Democratic National Finance Council, over 70% are Jewish contributors. In the year of 1976, 60% of the participants in donation to the democratic party were American Jews. Besides, in 1972, the president Nixon collected over 60% of fundraising from the Jewish community. Similarly, in 1968, Humphrey could obtain 75% from the contributors.¹ Moreover, Freeman, in “Evangelical and Israel stated” that in Bush administration the donation were estimated about half of the major funds consecrated to the Democrats to the point that in 2004, the Republican asked Bush to influence the Jews to give them their donation.

This idea could be put into effect two years after in 2006 when the Republicans could obtain 42% of the general funds that was granted to GOP. Consequently, the campaign donation, the Jewish vote, and the pro-Israel Lobby are key points which makes it clear that the opposition to Israel is practically impossible.²

2.5The Lobby within the American Congress.

The American Jewish presence in Congress dated back to the 1960s when they counted only ten Jews in the House of Commons. By 1930 to 1940, the Jews in the Congress were estimated about 1,4 percent of the House of Commons. There were no Jewish members in the Senate. However, by 1974, the number of the American Jewish Members of Parliament in the House of Representatives doubled and in 1991 it reached thirty-three in the House of Commons. In 1992, the American Jews in the Senate were about ten.

It is important to note that the presence of the Jews in the Congress is a new phenomenon that was not really accepted by the non-Jews because of

¹ Adam M. Howard, *Foreign Relation of the United States*, government Printing office Washington, 20013, p.286.

² Stephen Spector, *Evangelical and Israel : The Story of the American Christian Zionism*, University Press, Inc. New York, 2009, p.245.

anti-Semitism, but this feeling had disappeared through time allowing them to form an important lobbying entity defending the Israeli cause within the Congress.

Among the congressmen who were strongly active in pro-Israel direction, California Senator Barbara Boxer in Capitol Hill , Diane Feinstein and Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter and New York representative Ben Gilman. The American Jewish congressmen constituted a lobbying body which is more important than the American Jewish organizations working continually to defend the interests of Israel.¹

Within the congress, the two houses of Parliament differed greatly in their representation to the Jewish cause. The Senators are members of Parliament representing a state and working on the public policy. However, the House of representative is more concerned with the Jewish community. In the sense that when the representatives met together, it is usually to debate issues towards Israel, they even met once a month and their meetings are more frequent than those of the Senators. This attitude makes their Republican colleagues feel as they do not belong to the same political institution.²

Within the House of Representatives the Jews are divided into two parts. The first part is concerned with the Jewish representatives who represent a great part of the Jewish community existing in New York, Miami, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston Detroit, and Chicago. These members of parliament are expected to promote politically if they advocate the Israeli cause. However, the second part of the Jewish representative who represents an insignificant number of the Jewish population in America behaves as if they are law-makers who happen to be Jewish.

It was estimated that in the district with a large Jewish community , an American Jewish representative could represent 200,000 Jews as did Larry

¹ J.J. Goldberg,op.cit.,p.254.

²Ibid.,p.256.

Smith in South Florida contrarily to Dan Glickman who represented only 1,000 Jews in his district. To illustrate the latter idea Glickman declared as follows: ¹ <<One time Larry and I appeared on a panel together in Israel, and he was asked what's unique about American Jewish politics. He said, Look at this way. Here I am a congressman named Smith representing South Florida with 200,000 Jews. And here's Dan Glickman with less than 1,000 Jews in his district. And boy what we wouldn't do to trade with names.>> ²

The congress activities in foreign policy dates back to 1922 and 1944 supporting the Balfour Declaration that allowed the creation of the state of Israel and the Pro-Zionist American Palestine Committee that took birth in 1932 with the membership of sixty-eight senators. ³

There are too many reasons that make the congress generates sympathy to Israel. Among these reasons, the elections and public opinion. Besides, the United States and Israel have common social, political and cultural values. Adding to that, Israel is regarded as in outpost in a region of totalitarian regime and a great help for the United States to combat terrorism and Soviet expansionism.

America is also motivated by an old sense of culpability towards the Jews concerning the Holocaust which makes it potentially support Israel and the congress itself is in a pro-Israel direction to avoid any feeling of anti-Semitism that may compromise the relation with the Jews. ⁴

Conclusion:

Israel's creation and development is a dilemma that posed a controversial issue to worldwide view. What is more enigmatic is the uncritical American-Israeli relationship in the American government,

¹ Ibid.,p.256-257.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.,p.33.

⁴ Ibid.

although the U.S. national interests are sometimes compromised. Consequently, America Jewish lobbying organizations were created in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century that is AIPAC, ZOA, AJC, and ADL strongly worked to achieve the objectives of the Jews as defending the oppressed European Jews, influencing the world's view on creating a Jewish state for the Nazi survivals, liberating immigration in America, helping the Jews of Romania and in modern time shaping American foreign policy.

There are other competing interest groups in America as the Arab lobby, but the balance of influence tips towards the Jewish lobby as it was analyzed in this research work. What made the Jews deeply committed to the lobby is their awareness about the threat of the obliteration of the state of Israel. Thus, the only means to assure Israel's security is to empower the Jewish lobby.

The lobby served as a bridge between the United States and Israel strengthening their relationship which is deeply rooted in the psyche of the nation. However, the success of the lobby was basically realized by the pressure it exerted on America using strategic methods as influencing the law-makers, and the medias. The lobby also works hard to influence the media. There are numerous American Jewish columnists who write about the American foreign policy supporting the Jewish cause and never mention the Palestinian issue. Adding to that, the Jewish lobby consecrates astronomic financial contribution to presidential campaigns. The donation collected by the candidates who are pro-Israel is so important that they never criticize it and any opposition to the lobby is the inevitable failure. Moreover, the presence of the Jewish congressmen in the American congress is another important method that helps the lobby to achieve its objectives.