

**Title:** Israel Zangwill's East End: Autoethnography of Nationalist Cosmopolitanism  
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Between the 1880s and 1910s, the Anglo-Jewish community underwent geo-demographic and socioeconomic transformation, where the majority became foreign nationals or of foreign descent, concentrated in the East End and in the less affluent neighborhoods of industrial towns in the North, engaged in trade and crafts, and affiliated with traditional Orthodoxy or socialism. In *Children of the Ghetto* (1892), *Ghetto Tragedies* (1893, 1899), and *Ghetto Comedies* (1907), Israel Zangwill produced fictional autoethnographies which presented the already established Anglo-Jewish society as a homology for the larger British environment, right at the moment when the Anglo-Jewish community had engaged with the impact from Eastern European immigration.

In the period between Catholic Emancipation (1829) and the Aliens Act (1905), British national unity, established on religious-cultural foundations, was redefined in racial-civilizational terms. As the oppositions Christianity-Judaism and Hebraism- Hellenism yielded ground to Aryanism-Orientalism, British Jewish writers adapted dominant literary genres and tropes to reconfigure a local Jewish identity that was both integral to British nationhood and also incorporated in global Jewish community. Israel Zangwill articulated in his autoethnographic fiction an outline of diasporic nationalism grounded in the fusion of revitalized religion and race, and open to political implementation within the imperial framework. The home to which the "allegory of Judaism" returns is no longer a localized "ghetto" but a way of living embodied in family ties and future-oriented tradition, "longing for the old impossible Judaism".

In territorialist politics, the preference for "Zionism without Zion" over "Zion without Zionism" revealed Israel Zangwill's ambiguous positioning as both an imperialist cosmopolitan and a nationalist social activist. Acutely aware of the distress and needs of stateless immigrants, Zangwill harnessed the logic of civilizational imperialism in order to accommodate asylum-seeking aliens into the nascent nation-state world order.

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