

February 20, 1993

SECTION: Letters: Pg. 6 (U.K. Edition Pg. 6)

LENGTH: 148 words

HEADLINE: Drawing the Jewish line

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DATELINE: London

BODY:

SIR -- It may be reassuring (February 6th) for Barnet council to be told by that expert on communal harmony, the mayor of Los Angeles, that "the fears expressed by those who were initially opposed to the eruv never materialised." But the rest of us fear more racial tension, the risk of vandalism if nearly 100 posts with connecting wires are put up in this "leafy part of London" and possibly similar esoteric demands from other ethnic minorities. Even the statistic that 10,000 members of the United Synagogue in the area will benefit is questionable, since it fails to distinguish between supporters of its eruv committee and the bulk of its membership -- two-thirds of whom use their cars on the Sabbath.

The main reason for the spread of eruvism in the world is the increase of religious zealotry. And that's not only a problem among Jews, nor only for believers.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH