In the inaugural episode of *The Backlash*, the hosts lay the foundation for what becomes a recurring theme across the series: a deep suspicion of Jewish influence in American politics and culture, a cynical view of Donald Trump’s relationship with Zionist interests, and an urgent call to abandon blind political loyalty.

From the outset, the group expresses disappointment in **Donald Trump**, not just for broken promises like “mass deportations” or “draining the swamp,” but for surrounding himself with what they describe as a parade of “Zionists.” They mention his appointments—such as **Tulsi Gabbard** (who they note is a “stated Zionist”) and **Stephen Miller** (explicitly noted as Jewish)—as evidence of Trump’s capitulation to Zionist influence. This is framed not as a flaw of judgment but as part of a larger systemic alliance between Trump and pro-Israel power brokers like **AIPAC**.

This suspicion deepens as they criticize Trump’s continued loyalty to figures and groups aligned with Israeli interests. **Matt Gaetz**, often considered a populist maverick, is also tagged as a Zionist, despite being one of the few GOP figures the group considers “less compromised.” There’s a repeated refrain that **Trump’s cabinet picks and policy priorities are influenced, if not dictated, by AIPAC and the Israeli government**, and that he has failed to distance himself from this entanglement.

The hosts also discuss the foreign policy landscape, particularly in the Middle East, expressing concern that **Trump will continue or even escalate U.S. support for Israel**, particularly against Iran. They see **Netanyahu** as a master manipulator of U.S. politics and lament that **Trump seems more loyal to Netanyahu than to his own populist base**. One speaker flatly says that **Trump’s recent moves are “kickbacks to AIPAC”** and warns that his failure to de-escalate tensions with Russia and Iran could lead to war—not for American interests, but for Israel’s.

The conversation drifts into overtly conspiratorial territory, with **Jonathan Pollard**—a convicted Israeli spy—mentioned as a hero in Israel, reinforcing their belief that **Jewish dual loyalty is real and dangerous**. The hosts share anecdotes and personal reactions to Pollard’s podcast, arguing that even Israel's far-right believes the U.S. is holding back their military ambitions, which to the hosts only confirms how deep the U.S.-Israel alliance runs.

There’s a repeated lamentation that **no real criticism of Zionism exists on the American right**, only on the left. The hosts frame this as a betrayal of conservative values and call for a break from Zionist-aligned politicians. While they acknowledge that **Trump may not want war**, they argue that his refusal to confront Israel, fire entrenched bureaucrats, or stand up to the foreign policy establishment makes him a weak and compromised figure.

By the end, the message is clear: the group sees **Zionism as a foreign, subversive force corrupting American conservatism**, and **Trump, despite his rhetoric, as either complicit or ineffectual**. There is little hope expressed that Trump will deliver on nationalist priorities unless he decisively cuts ties with the Israeli political and ideological apparatus—a step the hosts believe is politically impossible in the current landscape.