

# FLAME HOTLINE

Facts & Logic About the Middle East

March 19, 2019



## Are Jewish Democrats Committed Enough to Protect Israel from Their Own Party?

Dear Friend of FLAME:

Many Jewish Democrats pay lip service to support of Israel, but when it comes to opposing acts hostile to Israel—or supporting acts helpful to Israel—they often abandon the Jewish homeland. Israel is apparently often not as important as party loyalty.

Two examples: When Barack Obama engineered and ratified the Iran Deal, we at FLAME criticized the President roundly—because it was a bad deal for the U.S. and for Israel.

When, in December 2016, the Obama administration allowed the United Nations Security Council to adopt a resolution denying Jewish connection and rights to Jerusalem, we criticized the President again—because it was a lie . . . and a betrayal of Israel.

In both cases, we received blowback from Jewish Democrats—FLAME supporters—who were angry that we criticized "their guy." One such supporter warned us against attacking President Obama because, "you don't understand, we love him."

The problem was not FLAME's failure to understand. It was that our higher principle is support of Israel *above unqualified support* of any politician or party.

Likewise, when we praised Donald Trump for getting the U.S. out of the Iran Deal and moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, Jewish Democrats warned us against supporting this "evil man" and warning us against dire consequences when Democrats returned to the White House.

They meant that supporting good deeds for Israel by Trump—no matter how righteous they might be—would mark us for punishment for disloyalty from ascendant Democrats.

Today, Jewish Democrats face new, even more troubling challenges to their loyalty to the Democratic Party.

Today it's not just the Democratic President performing sneaky, debatable policy

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**YOU DESERVE TO KNOW THE TRUTH...**

**What Does BDS Really Want?**

Made often report that the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement is to "protect against Israeli occupation of the West Bank"—but facts prove otherwise.

Some mainstream press and politicians who want the BDS position, representing the highest criticism of Israel policy toward Palestinians. The truth is, BDS stands quietly against the very existence of Israel—and advocates anti-Semitic measures to destroy the Jewish state.

**What are the facts?**

The U.S. State recently passed a landmark bill—the Countering BDS Act—limiting the rights of states to punish companies that do business commercially with Israel. While the AIPAC is the main and several presidential candidates support the Act, saying it violates the speech rights that protect Israel's fundamental values of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement. In fact, BDS has nothing to do with political speech and everything to do with commercial discrimination against a religious and ethnic group—just as an organization to Jewish national self-determination. Imagine the media and politicians attempting to act of Congress in order to protect the existence of a religiously motivated or racially black country that is opposed by the common enemy for religious or racial reasons.

Yet, as this case—and dozens media misrepresentations—this is precisely the intention of the BDS movement.

**BDS doesn't just call for divestment, it opposes the state of Israel.** BDS doesn't simply question Israel's "occupation" of the Jewish National homeland, rather, BDS calls for "One State", rather BDS opposes Israel's occupation of the entire Holy Land. The BDS campaign is all "The solution will be One State (One) One to the (the) international law"—meaning the entire state of Israel, (Israel, West Bank, Golan Heights, and Gaza).

**BDS doesn't want to end the support of BDS, it wants to—us.** Why do the media to get this message out?

**BDS doesn't criticize any other nation for its treatment of Palestinian.** While BDS attacks Israel exclusively for its failure to police in the disputed territories and Gaza, the movement does not criticize any other nation or ethnic group. It ignores the slaughter of Palestinians in Syria. It makes no objection to Israel's military action against Palestinians in Arab 11, Lebanon, Libya, or 78 other Palestinian towns from the past 60 years, leaving Israeli villages empty, preventing in some professions and areas, including Gaza. This is the Jewish homeland.

**BDS is not a Palestinian support group—rather it is an anti-Israel, anti-Jewish group, that is the intention of the only Jewish state. Why do journalists fail to report?**

**BDS doesn't criticize Hamas or the PLO for their oral opposition of the existence, land, and Palestinian**

enjoy full equality under law and more civil liberties and freedoms, especially in the occupied territories in the Middle East. By contrast, Palestinians living under the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) in Gaza and under the rule of Hamas in Gaza are not equal to the citizenship of Israel. In a virtual police state, where counter-terrorism is focused on suppressing dissent.

**Political anti-Semitism is legal.** Commercial-based racial discrimination in the U.S. has been historically banned, but not necessarily based on ethnicity—especially where the country, as just 70 years old, is still fighting Jewish work to progress Israel's legal system has not.

**BDS doesn't seek policy change—it seeks the end of the only Jewish state.**

But the BDS movement does not seek policy change. Rather, BDS seeks the end of the Jewish state.

Its entire agenda is dedicated to reducing the world's only Jewish state into the 1st and 2nd tier nations. While the U.S. constitution prohibits this, the BDS movement is the only group that has the political and financial resources to do this. The BDS campaign is all "The solution will be One State (One) One to the (the) international law"—meaning the entire state of Israel, (Israel, West Bank, Golan Heights, and Gaza).

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maneuvers to Israel's disadvantage—or the "unspeakable" Republican supporting Israel. Rather, it's Democratic Congressional representatives voicing plainly anti-Semitic sentiments to delegitimize Israel and Israel's supporters.

What's more, Nancy Pelosi's Democrat-controlled House refused to condemn specifically those anti-Semitic profanities or censure Rep. Ilhan Omar, who uttered them.

Where are the Israel supporters in the Democratic Party when we need them? Where is the outrage of Democrat supporters of Israel and the Jewish people when we need them?

Don't misunderstand: Democrats don't have to become Republicans . . . or even to vote for Republicans. That's a different choice. But Democrats who truly support Israel should raise a ruckus in their party—demand an immediate, unequivocal end to anti-Semitic calumnies among their members.

Put it another way: If you're a Democrat who doesn't vocally disavow Rep. Ilhan Omar and her evil, anti-Semitic sister, Rep. Rashida Tlaib—if you don't write a protest letter to the editor or to your state's Democratic chairperson—you can't honestly say you support Israel.

This is a question of personal integrity. FLAME does not support political parties because we "like" them or "love" their Presidential candidate. We support politicians who support the causes and values most sacred to us.

When a party abandons your sacred causes, it's your moral duty to threaten to leave—or to *actually* leave—that party. If you're a Jewish American, you should insist your party support Israel. That's good for the United States, the Jewish people and the Jewish homeland.

In short, it's high time that all Jewish Democrats—and all Democrats of integrity—forcefully condemn the growing antagonism of increasing numbers of Democrat politicians against Jewish Americans and the Jewish state.

Contact House Speaker [Nancy Pelosi](#) and your favorite Presidential candidate. Let them know where you stand on anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism. Tell them the heart of the Party is at stake. If they fail to condemn anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism, that is a failure of *moral integrity*—undeserving of your support.

In talking with friends, family and colleagues, I urge you to focus not on party or politicians, but on the issues of anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism. If the party or a politician supports the Jewish people and the Jewish state, it's important that we support them vocally for that (no matter which party, no matter whom we end up voting for).

I hope you'll also quickly visit FLAME's lively new *Facebook* page and review the P.S. immediately below. It describes FLAME's most recent *hasbarah* campaign—on whitewashing misrepresentations made by the media and, alarmingly, by some politicians, about the insidious Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement.

Best regards,

## PLEASE HELP US!!

FLAME is the only organization that defends Israel with paid editorial *hasbarah* messages placed in media nationwide every month: The dire threats from Iran, Hamas and Hizbollah, the injustice of BDS, Palestinian anti-Semitism and more. If you support a bold voice that tells the truth about Israel in American media, please donate now.

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## FLAME'S WEEKLY HOTLINE E- NEWSLETTER



FLAME's Hotline e-newsletter keeps you up to date on the most important pro-Israel advocacy issues and features our choice of the week's most informative and thought-provoking article on Israel and the Middle East. If you only subscribe to one pro-Israel news service, make it the FLAME Hotline.

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Jim Sinkinson

President, Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)

P.S. While the Combating BDS Act overwhelmingly passed the Senate (by a vote of 77-23) in February—*without support from any Democratic Senator running for President*—some media and politicians, as well as the ACLU, opposed the bill based on its alleged infringement on free speech. Yet this representation is a lie, since BDS does not merely criticize Israel's policies toward Palestinians, but rather opposes Israel's very existence. This is not a free speech issue, but a thinly veiled hate speech issue. That's why FLAME has created a new *hasbarah* message called "[What Does BDS Really Want?](#)" I hope you'll review this hard-hitting paid editorial, which began running this month. It exposes the true motives of BDS supporters and explains why they are anti-Semitic at heart. It will also be sent to all members of Congress, Vice President Pence and President Trump. If you agree that this kind of public relations effort on Israel's behalf is critical, I urge you to support us. Remember: FLAME's powerful ability to influence public opinion—and U.S. support of Israel—comes from individuals like you, one by one. I hope you'll consider giving a donation now, as you're able—with \$500, \$250, \$100, or even \$18. (Remember, your donation to FLAME is tax deductible.) To donate online, just go to [donate now](#). Now, more than ever, we need your support to ensure that the American people, the U.S. Congress and President Trump stay focused on Israel's critical role in protecting U.S. interests in the region—as well as protecting itself.

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Facts and Logic

About the Middle East

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