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2) **Israel occupies Palestinian territory:** Israel retreated entirely from the Gaza Strip in 2005. Hamas exclusively rules that land and its two million people. However, because of attacks on Israeli civilians, Israel imposed a blockade on

[illegible]

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the territory in 2007, and Egypt later followed suit.

3) Israel won't let the Palestinians have a state: Israel has made three offers of land and a state for peace to the Palestinian Authority in the last 21 years, but the PA rebuked them all. Hamas could have built a flourishing state in Gaza, but they have chosen to squander their resources to create terror against Israeli civilians.

4) Hamas is fighting for the Palestinian people: Hamas is a brutal dictatorship that has no functioning relationship or cooperation with the Palestinian Authority (and its two million people) in the West Bank—indeed, the two groups are bitter enemies. Nor does Hamas “represent” Palestinians in Gaza—the people under its rule have not voted for 15 years.

5) Israel is stealing private Palestinian land in Jerusalem: The issue in Jerusalem is a property dispute based upon non-payment of rent on property agreed by its Palestinian residents to be owned by Jews. The case has reached Israel's Supreme Court, which has not yet ruled.

6) Israel wants to take over the Al Aqsa mosque: Israel allows Muslims to manage the Temple Mount, and hundreds of thousands of Muslims regularly pray there. Israel has no plans to change this. Jews, however, are forbidden to pray on the Temple Mount, Judaism's holiest site.

All these “justifications” for supporting Hamas are simply untrue—they are verifiably “fake news,” whose context is hidden by many mainstream media.

In addition to these misconceptions, some mainstream media and other Hamas supporters simply fail to accurately describe the group and its actions. Above all, the media rarely mention that dozens of governments around the world—including the United States, European Union, Canada and United Kingdom, as well as Arab nations—classify Hamas as a terrorist organization.

Hamas' founding charter—the words it uses to define itself—relays its goals. The charter *starts* with: “Israel . . . will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.” Thus, this is an organization openly dedicated to the utter destruction of Israel. Most media fail to reference this fact.

The charter also frequently mentions violent Jihad, and has no interest in peace, compromise or negotiation. It clearly states that: “[Peace] initiatives, and so-called peaceful solutions and international conferences are in contradiction to the principles of the Islamic Resistance Movement.” Do your news sources report this?

However, the most egregious part of Hamas's charter is its religious aspiration to kill all Jews everywhere: “The Day of Judgment will not come about until Moslems fight Jews and kill them. Then, the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will cry out: 'O Moslem, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him'.” In other words, Hamas doesn't hate Jews because of Israel, but rather wants to destroy Israel to kill the Jews.

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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Although defended by many progressives in the West, Hamas is also a misogynist, anti-LGBTQ, anti-Christian and repressive ruler of the Gaza Strip, which it brutally took over in 2007 by throwing its opponents from high-rise buildings. Hamas also refers to Christians as “infidels” and targets churches in Gaza. Celebrating Christmas and other Christian holidays is banned, converts to Christianity will be killed, while Christians have been forcibly converted to Islam, and Christian leaders have been targeted and killed.

Those suffering most from Hamas are ordinary Palestinians in Gaza who are brutally repressed. They are regularly used as “human shields”—producing the bloody pictures Hamas needs to gain sympathy. While Hamas receives hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign aid, they do not use these funds to create hospitals, welfare programs or electricity. They use it to obtain thousands of offensive rockets and an underground shelter system used only by Hamas leaders.

When activists and media create an equivalence between Israel and Hamas, they hide the context—the reality of what Hamas believes and does. This is not a war between equivalents. It is a war between a genocidal organization that seeks the bloodshed of others as well as its own, against a democratic freedom-loving people defending its homeland from incessant attacks.

I hope you will point out to friends, family, colleagues and your elected representatives that anyone who sympathizes with Hamas’s cause—or who objects to Israel’s defensive response to unprovoked aggression—should be called to account for the brutal, oppressive and war-obsessed behavior of this terror group. Given the facts, anyone who supports Hamas should themselves feel ashamed, and if not, be held to shame by all moral people. If your friends still retain sympathy for Hamas, I challenge them to view this short video, in which Hamas leaders vividly reveal themselves.

I hope you’ll also take a minute, while you have this material front and center, to forward this message to friends, visit FLAME’s lively Facebook page and review the P.S. immediately below. It describes FLAME’s new hasbarah campaign—which exposes the outrageous, false accusation that Israel is an “apartheid state.”

Best regards,

Jim Sinkinson

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

P.S. Every year, dozens of major American colleges and universities host Israel Apartheid Week, sponsored by radical pro-Palestinian groups like Students for Justice in Palestine. In addition, critics of Israel also assert that Israel is or will soon become an apartheid state. As you know, nothing is further from the truth. Israel guarantees equal rights to all its citizens and its laws bear zero resemblance to any of the hateful rules of apartheid South Africa, where the term was invented. To clarify this point, FLAME has created a new *hasbarah* message called “The Israel

[Apartheid Lie](#).” I hope you'll review this convincing, fact-based paid editorial, which has run in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and other media nationwide. This piece will also be sent to all members of Congress, Vice President Harris and President Biden. 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 Biden to oppose efforts to slander or otherwise weaken the Jewish state.

As of today, more than 15,000 Israel supporters receive the FLAME Hotline [at no charge](#) every week. If you're not yet a subscriber, won't you join us in receiving these timely updates, so you can more effectively tell the truth about Israel? Just go to [free subscription](#).



Facts and Logic
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