

Having trouble viewing? [View this mailing online.](#)

SUBSCRIBE TO THE FLAME HOTLINE DONATE TO FLAME



December 28, 2020



If Israel is as terrible as its enemies claim, why do so many Palestinians prefer to live under Israeli rule?

Dear Friend of FLAME:

Despite the daily stream of lies from Israel's critics that the Jewish state practices apartheid, genocide, illegal land grabs and the slaughter of children, most Arabs living in Israel tell researchers they prefer Israeli rule to the Palestinian alternative.

The reason isn't hard to fathom: Israel haters are mostly leftists living in the U.S. and Western Europe who have zero contact with Israel and the lives of its two million Arab citizens and residents—let alone a first-hand understanding of the Israel-Palestinian conflict.

In fact, their false accusations have nothing to do with reality on the ground in the Middle East and everything to do with a radical political dogma that states, “Israel is evil—because it must be evil—so our philosophy can make sense.” In fact, indisputably, Arab-Israelis enjoy full equality with Israel’s Jewish citizens, more civil liberties than their Arab brethren in any other Middle East nation and greater prosperity and economic opportunity as well.

Indeed, Arab-Israelis and Palestinians in the West Bank know full well that Israel treats its people better than do Palestinian leaders in the West Bank and Gaza—who institutionally deprive their people of basic human rights, consign them to oppressive misery and deny them peace with their neighbors.

Recent surveys of Arab-Israelis and Palestinian residents of Israel have underscored this reality.

According to a 2021 [survey](#) undertaken by the Palestinian *Shfa* publication, 93% of Palestinian Arabs in Jerusalem—all non-Israeli citizens—prefer to remain under Israeli rule and would not give up their Israeli identity cards. Astonishingly for those who witness the daily media and NGO barrage claiming

HOME

SUBSCRIBE

DONATE

PR FOR ISRAEL

HOTLINE ARCHIVE

ABOUT

CONTACT US

**THIS MONTH'S AD
APPEARED IN
PUBLICATIONS
REACHING 10 MILLION
READERS**

[illegible]

**IF YOU SUPPORT
PUBLISHING FLAME'S
BOLD PR MESSAGES,
PLEASE HELP US!!**

Arab Palestinian misery under Israel's "occupation," only 84 respondents out of 1,200 surveyed said they would prefer to live under the Palestinian Authority. However, even of those 84, 79 said they also would not give up their Israeli identity cards.

Nevertheless, this survey is hardly an outlier, and other Arabs feel similarly. A [poll](#) undertaken by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung at Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center in 2017, found that 60% of Arabs in Israel had a favorable attitude towards the State of Israel.

"The bottom line is there is more identification with Israel than with a possible Palestinian state," Michael Borchard, Israel director of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung said, in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*. "They want to be recognized in their specific identity but have no problem to be related in a way to Israel."

A 2019 poll by progressive researchers Dahlia Scheindlin and David Reis tells a similar story. It revealed that while 14% of Arab-Israelis identify as "Palestinian," 19% identify as "Palestinian-Israeli" and 46% choose "Arab-Israeli." That's 65% who identify as some form of Israeli. Only 22% identify as purely "Arab."

In 2020, Israeli social statistician Camil Fuchs found that only 15% of Palestinians picked "Arab" as their identity and only 7% opted for "Palestinian." On the other hand, 23% chose "Israeli," and 51% went with "Arab-Israeli." That's 74% choosing some form of Israeli identify.

Just four years ago, in 2017, some 60% of Arab citizens of Israel indicated they held a positive view of the Israeli state—and 63% of them found Israel a "positive" place to live (compared with only 34% who said it was not).

Another survey in 2017 found that 51% of Arab-Israelis described themselves as "quite proud" or "very proud" to be Israelis, and 56% considered Israel's situation "good" or "very good." Such statistics tempt American citizens to wonder whether their own country would score as high among its minority populations.

Finally, recall FLAME's May 2020 [Hotline](#) in which we reported that a massive majority—85%—of non-Jews in Israel feel *comfortable being themselves* in Israel. The same study found that fully 91% of non-Jews *disagree* that to be a "real Israeli," you must be Jewish. In other words, Arab-Israelis clearly do not feel poorly treated—and certainly don't chafe under so-called "apartheid."

The closer reasonable people look at the reality of life in Israel—as well as in Hamas-held Gaza and the Fatah-ruled West Bank—the more they are forced to abandon such false slanders as "apartheid," "genocide" and "Israeli oppression." They are forced to acknowledge that the majority of Israel bashing by the media and the ultra-left is more imagined than real—mostly by those far outside the arena they describe with such vitriol.

Those who live in Israel or under Israeli direct control have little desire to change the situation, since the other option—living under the boots of a

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.

DONATE NOW »



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.

SUBSCRIBE NOW »

Palestinian dictatorship—would be no improvement for all but a tiny fanatical and/or corrupt minority.

Please point out to friends, family, colleagues and your elected representatives that those privileged American and European elites who purport to speak for the “Palestinian people” rarely understand their reality—which is a misery created more by their own leaders than those of Israel, who are primarily focused on protecting their citizens from terrorist attacks.

In short, today’s progressive circles revel in tearing down Israel and Zionism. Their circular argument is that Israel is bad—“hateful,” “oppressive,” “apartheid,” “genocidal,” “guilty of war crimes”—mostly because they say so, even though hard reality clearly contradicts their slander. Thus, virtually all Israeli behavior is disdainfully libeled, provoking hysterical outrage. These same radical militants then pat themselves on the back for forcing Israel patiently, tediously to refute all the lies . . . again.

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 “Ben & Jerry’s Bad Taste” and those who support boycotts of the Jewish state.”

Best regards,

Jim Sinkinson

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

P.S. As you know, Ben & Jerry’s recently announced that it would cease its contract with its Israeli affiliate because the affiliate refused to stop selling the company’s ice cream in the ancient Jewish territories of Judea and Samaria. This move, championed by the company’s anti-Israel board chair, is just the latest attempt to boycott the Jewish state—joining the BDS movement—which some 35 U.S. states consider illegal and anti-Semitic. To clarify this issue for the American people—including many Jews—FLAME has created a new *hasbarah* message called “[Ben & Jerry’s Bad Taste](#).” I hope you'll review this convincing, fact-based paid editorial, which will run soon in the *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune* and other media nationwide. It spells out why Ben & Jerry’s should be held to account for this attempt to delegitimize the State of Israel. 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 stay committed to fighting anti-Semitic actions by individuals, politicians and commercial companies.

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
About the Middle East
PO Box 3460
Berkeley, CA 94703

Copyright 2020 FLAME. All rights reserved.

[Unsubscribe](#)