

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

SUBSCRIBE TO THE FLAME HOTLINE DONATE TO FLAME



July 4, 2023

Asking CAIR’s help in Biden’s fight against antisemitism insults all victims of Jew hatred.

Dear Friend of Israel, Dear Friend of FLAME:

How could the notorious antisemitic Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) have ended up—embarrassingly—as a “resource” in President Biden’s National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism (NSCA)?

CAIR was launched in 1994 by a Muslim Brotherhood-related Hamas support group called the Palestine Committee. CAIR was named as an unindicted co-conspirator in a 2007 trial that convicted five former officers of the Holy Land Foundation for funneling millions of dollars illegally to the murderous terror group Hamas.

Moreover, CAIR’s statements on Jews and Israel over the decades are infamous for their open antisemitism and anti-Israel vitriol. No wonder it has been denounced by many American Jewish organizations.

How, then, could President Biden have chosen CAIR to help him fight Jew hatred?

Biden’s choice is as puzzling as it is appalling—an insult to all Jews, especially those who have been victims of Jew hatred. It utterly discredits the Biden initiative.

Indeed, CAIR is no solution to antisemitism: It’s part of the problem. As such, it has no place in the NSCA or any other strategy aimed at ending antisemitism in the U.S.

CAIR was conjured up by supporters of Hamas—the virulently antisemitic Palestinian group that rules Gaza and whose charter calls for murdering Jews in order to erase the State of Israel from “Palestine.”

CAIR was founded as part of the Palestine Committee, a support network for Hamas, of which the Islamic Association for Palestine (IAP) was the propaganda

- HOME
- SUBSCRIBE
- DONATE
- PR FOR ISRAEL
- HOTLINE ARCHIVE
- ABOUT
- CONTACT US

THIS MONTH’S AD
APPEARED IN
PUBLICATIONS
REACHING 10 MILLION
READERS

YOU DESERVE TO KNOW THE TRUTH...

Demand Justice for Jewish Students

New report shows skyrocketing attacks on students' Jewish identity—rooted in anti-Zionism, a modern disguise for classic antisemitism. It's time to fight back.

Despite rising campus attacks on Israel, most Jewish students still support the Jewish state. But anti-Zionism fueled by the classroom and party, equate Jews with racism to hide their Jewish identity. Greater enforcement of Title VI anti-discrimination laws promises a cure to this epidemic.

What are the facts?

According to a new report by AMCHA Institute, bullying and intimidation of Jewish students on university campuses tripled in the last year, while attempts to censor Zionism increased on 60% of U.S. campuses. Jewish identity trips to Israel increased nearly 30-fold. Reinforcement of Jewish persecution in 1980s East Germany, more than 50% of U.S. Jewish students say they hide their Jewish identity, according to a 2021 poll by the Branson Center for Jewish Rights.

Antisemitic attacks on campus must be prosecuted

While discrimination against most ethnic minorities is strictly covered on campus, university administrators have generally failed to protect Jewish students from attacks against them. Formerly, a report of complaints usually filed with the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights (OCR) now demands evidence under Title VI anti-discrimination statute, except at religious universities. At University of New York, University of Vermont, University of Illinois, and University of Southern California, as among schools facing OCR investigation for alleged antisemitism violations.

Not surprisingly, the AMCHA report registered pro-Palestinian groups, such as Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), for responsibility in targeting Jewish students.

Indeed, the report found that anti-Zionist groups like SJP were the largest overall contributors to attacks on Jewish identity. Despite their pattern of making antisemitic hate, to date only a single chapter of SJP has been permanently shut down as a U.S. campus at New York's private Fordham University. The hat was upheld in court.

AMCHA report also noted the contribution of non-Jewish Israeli anti-Zionist groups and individuals to the assault on Jewish identity. One such group is Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP), which uses its pro-Zionist Jewish identity as cover for antisemitism.

Bad enough that Jewish students are targeted for persecution by their peers, but even worse when university faculty support the persecutors. No wonder, according to AMCHA, that antisemitism is only faculty who support the BDO movement were there to seven times more likely to suffer attacks on Jewish identity. In fact, AMCHA found that "twenty percent of threats to Jewish identity took place at events sponsored by academic faculty."

Sadly, without federal intervention, there's little hope universities will stop antisemitic attacks. Typically, Jewish students who feel their Jewish identity is threatened can address only on their school's harassment policies to protect them. These policies usually forbid harassment based on race or ethnicity or religion, but in most cases, university administrators do not recognize hostility toward Israel and its supporters as a religious or ethnic issue.

This approach by university administration ignores the definition of antisemitism established by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), which is recognized worldwide and includes discrimination and harassment based on anti-Israel bias.

Fortunately, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 may offer powerful recourse for Jewish students under attack. Because the federal prohibits discrimination based on ethnic identity, recent complaints to the OCR emphasize the racial connection between Zionism and Jews' historic relationship to their ancestral home, the land of Israel. Indeed, Zionism is not a political opinion—it is a fundamental feature of Jewish ethnic identity. Likewise, the Jews are not simply a religious group, but rather are a people who share language, culture, ancestry and a powerful historical heritage.

While violations of Title VI do not carry criminal penalties, their costs can be massive. First, recipients of federal government funding—which represents billions, even tens of millions of dollars for most universities—can be refused or reduced, harmed, the OCR can require the return of funds to be repaid—usually within 90 days. Second, the OCR can require the return of funds to be repaid—usually within 90 days. Third, the reputational damage caused by Title VI violations can wreak havoc on university fundraising and student recruitment efforts.

Attacks against Jewish students represent an assault on the American social fabric and our democracy. Higher education administrators should be reminded by their agents that abuse of power of antisemitism, especially in the form of discrimination, is a crime under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Persecution need not be only, period and result. Jewish students deserve better than the current hostile environment on campus. They deserve justice.

This message has been published and paid for by

FLAME

Facts and Logic About the Middle East
PO Box 1000, Berkeley, CA 94703
James Shiroian, President
Shirley A. Glick, Executive Director

FLAME is a non-profit, non-partisan organization. Its mission is to promote understanding and respect for all people, and to defend the rights of all people. It is not a political organization. It does not take sides in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict or in any other conflict. It is a neutral, non-partisan organization that promotes understanding and respect for all people.

To receive free FLAME updates, visit our website: www.factsandlogic.org



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

arm. In 2002, a federal judge found that the IAP “acted in support of Hamas.” In 2004, another federal judge found IAP civilly liable for the 1996 shooting death of an American teenager by a Hamas member in Judea and Samaria, aka, the West Bank.

CAIR was incorporated by three IAP leaders: Omar Ahmad, Nihad Awad and Rafeeq Jaber. The FBI identified Omar Ahmad as one of the leaders of Hamas. In 1994, upon CAIR’s founding, Nihad Awad, currently the Executive Director of CAIR, publicly declared, “I am in support of the Hamas movement.”

Records from the Palestine Committee were used as evidence in a federal terrorism trial in 2008, during which the presiding U.S. District Court judge found “ample evidence to establish the associations of CAIR . . . with Hamas.”

Was Team Biden aware of CAIR’s terrorist heritage?

In addition, CAIR has a well-documented history of antisemitic behavior. Its officials blame Jews for the rise of Islamophobia in the U.S. For example, in 2021, Zahra Billoo, the Executive Director of CAIR in San Francisco, blamed “Zionist synagogues,” the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), Hillel and other Jewish organizations for being part of a conspiracy to spread Islamophobia.

In a speech to the American Muslims for Palestine Annual Convention for Palestine, Billoo said, “We have to connect the dots between the organizations that promote Zionist agendas materials marketing and legislation [they] are the same ones that want to ban Muslims, are the same ones that want to pass anti-sharia legislation.”

Note that Mr. Biden’s National Strategy includes, as one of its cornerstones, the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of antisemitism, which has been endorsed by 1,116 global entities, including 30 U.S. states and the U.S. State Department. According to the IHRA, accusing Jews of collective conspiracy is a clear-cut example of antisemitism.

Did anyone in the Biden Administration see the obvious conflict with blatantly anti-Jewish statements by CAIR’s leadership?

CAIR also frequently demonizes and delegitimizes the State of Israel.

Hussam Ayloush, CAIR’s Executive Director for Greater Los Angeles, even went so far as to equate Israeli Jews with Nazis, saying in an email, “Indeed, the zionazis are a bunch of nice people; just like their nazi brethren!”

CAIR’s Zarah Billoo also compared Israel to the Nazis. During the Gaza War in 2014, she said, “Israel ‘defending’ itself from Palestinians is analogous to Nazi Germany defending itself from Jewish uprising.” The IHRA specifically cites comparing Israel and its policies to Nazi Germany as an example of antisemitism.

No wonder CAIR opposes the IHRA definition. When the French parliament endorsed the IHRA definition in 2019, CAIR’s National Strategic Communications Director, Ahmed Rehab, responded by saying, “F*** Zionism. And F*** you too France.”

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 »

 **SUBSCRIBE FREE**

**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 »

Most notably, CAIR has been vigorously denounced by American Jewish organizations. Several Jewish organizations have specifically criticized CAIR's involvement in the NSCA.

A group of American rabbis, the Coalition for Jewish Values, called for CAIR's removal from the NSCA initiative, saying the organization has "incited antisemitism since its inception."

The Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations expressed similar sentiments. Its CEO, William Daroff, said it was "deeply troubling" that CAIR "is included as anything other than as an organization that definitively traffics in antisemitic tropes and propounds policies of anti-Zionism that are antisemitic."

Following the release of the NSCA, Deborah Lipstadt, the U.S. Special Envoy for Monitoring and Combatting Antisemitism, responding to criticism of CAIR, lamely implied the organization should be judged on what it does in the future rather than what it's done in the past.

While in recent months, CAIR has condemned some acts of white supremacist antisemitism, it has ignored any acts of such hate speech by leftists or Muslims.

Clearly, CAIR's recent efforts to whitewash itself as a group fighting antisemitism ring hollow. Though the organization condemns some antisemitic acts, it continues its own tradition of Israel-bashing.

Steve Flatow, the president-elect of the Religious Zionists of America, noted, for example, that on the day the NSCA was released, CAIR issued a press release condemning "apartheid Israel." In fact, according to Flatow, "CAIR issued no less than nine anti-Israel press releases in the first 30 days since it was embraced by the Biden administration."

In short, naming CAIR in the NSCA and relying on the organization to counter Jew hatred thoroughly discredits Biden's strategy. In fact, the plan seems at pains to avoid holding CAIR—or any Muslims or left-wing Jew- or Israel-haters—responsible for their blatant antisemitism.

Please make the point when speaking with family, friends, colleagues—or in letters to the editor—that CAIR is not an organization that fights antisemitism, but rather one that fuels Jew-hatred. Its inclusion in the Biden plan is a *schande*—a scandalous shame.

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 —"Demand Justice for Jewish Students"—which exposes rising attacks on Jewish college students' identity and how these acts of antisemitism can be defeated.

Best regards,
James Sinkinson, President
Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)

P.S. You've surely seen headlines describing increasing attacks on Jewish students—in the classroom and in the public square—by radical anti-Zionist students, as well as faculty members. So far, university administrators have failed to prevent this kind of antisemitism on campus. At the heart of this discrimination, Israel's enemies outrageously claim that Zionism is not part of being Jewish. No wonder more and more Jewish students are hiding their Jewish identities on campus. I think you'll agree that we supporters of Israel need to speak out. FLAME's new hasbarah—explanatory message—“[Demand Justice for Jewish Students](#)”—tells how recent law suits based on Title VI anti-discrimination laws are putting pressure on college administrators to protect Jewish students from such attacks. I hope you'll review this convincing, fact-based editorial, which FLAME recently published in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *New York Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Star Tribune*, *Los Angeles Times* and *Newsmax*. 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](#).

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 2023 FLAME. All rights reserved.

[Unsubscribe](#)