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FLAME. **HOTLINE**

May 7, 2024



Protester breaks and enters Columbia's Hamilton Hall before his accomplices seize and hold the building. Pro-Hamas, pro-Iran protesters have waged a campaign of intimidation and violence against Jewish and other students at more than 50 colleges and universities across the U.S.

How we can fight the "hate revolution" on America's campuses

Dear Friend of Israel, Friend of FLAME:

Last week, at Columbia University, a riotous mob broke into an administration building, barricaded themselves, and briefly took a university employee hostage. Columbia is one of more than 50 colleges and universities throughout the U.S. where pro-Hamas, pro-Iran students (and some faculty) have terrorized Jewish and other students by seizing campus property with anarchic, hate-filled demonstrations.

While demonstrators represent themselves as pro-Palestinian, they are in fact pro-terrorist, antisemitic and anti-American. They are engaged in a "hate revolution" that spineless college administrators have failed to control.

Such disruptive demonstrations were spawned by decades of neo-Marxist ideology infesting and now dominating American academia. This legitimizes violence and intimidation against groups—like Jews—and institutions—like the United States—demonized as "oppressors." As a result, Jewish students are often afraid to go to class and prevented from moving freely about campus for fear of harassment by antisemitic thugs.

The uprisings are not just a threat to Jewish students. They're a threat to America itself. These violent "protestors" openly condemn America and support America's enemies - including

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global jihadi sponsor Iran and its terrorist proxies, like Hamas.

In short, it's unconscionable that administrators at American colleges and universities are incapable of stopping this hate revolution. They should be terminated by their trustees. To fortify our commitment to rule of law, student safety and academic freedom, Congress should withhold funding from institutions that fail to uphold state and federal laws. Schools should expel students—and fire faculty—who use violence and illegal activities . . . and who promote Jew-hatred. Finally, it means responding immediately to any group that deprives students of their civil rights because of ethnicity, religion or political expression.

Jewish students face an explosion of hate and violence on college campuses. According to Hillel International, since October 7 the number of antisemitic incidents on U.S. college campuses has surged 700% over the same period a year ago. Indeed, between October 7 and the end of 2023, the Antidefamation League (ADL) recorded 732 campus-based antisemitic incidents, compared to just 63 in the same period in 2022.

Hateful rhetoric against Jews and Israel includes outright support for Hamas's brutal October 7 massacre. At Columbia University, for example, demonstrators chanted at Jews, "The 7th of October will be every day for you." Protesters on multiple campuses have also displayed the symbols of <u>US-designated terror groups</u>, including the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and Hezbollah.

In addition to hateful rhetoric, Jews on campus also experience <u>intimidation and violence</u>. At the University of California at Berkeley, for instance, "pro-Palestinian" protesters broke into a building where an Israeli lawyer was to speak, screaming "Jew! Jew!," and <u>causing</u> attendees to flee.

Shai Davidai, a professor at Columbia University, was put under investigation after condemning campus antisemitism. Later, his ID card was deactivated, preventing him from accessing the main campus. Antisemitism at Columbia is so threatening that a rabbi at the school sent a letter to Jewish students advising them <u>not to show up</u> on campus.

This violent revolutionary movement is rooted in neo-Marxism, which divides the world into oppressors and oppressed. Oppressors are subject to defeat "by any means necessary"—a slogan seen at many anti-Israel protests, along with the genocidal demand to conquer Israel "from the river to the sea." The ideology has inspired critical race theory (CRT) and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) policies. It classifies people, organizations and nations into categories of good and evil according to their hierarchy on the oppressor-oppressed scale.

Campus revolutionaries consider Jews, Israel and the U.S. to be "White" oppressors and therefore subject to violent "resistance." No wonder pro-Hamas protestors scream, "Death to America! Death to Israel!"

College administrators have scandalously failed to do their jobs: Their <u>foremost</u> responsibilities are to protect students' safety and academic freedom. That means honoring the open search for truth and free expression of diverse opinions—forbidding <u>"cancel culture"</u>—as well as preventing antisemitism and genocidal calls for the destruction of Israel.

How do we shut down the "hate revolution"? *First,* college administrators who fail to punish violence and hate speech—and fail to protect academic freedom—should be removed. Protests expressing Jew-hatred or disrupting students' movement must be shut down, and those who violate school policies must be suspended or expelled.

Second, Congress should increase penalties related to antisemitic and unlawful behavior, as well as violence of any kind. These should include harsh financial sanctions on schools and revocation of visas for foreign students who participate in unlawful activities.

Third, colleges should face dire legal consequences for failing to stamp out antisemitism. Columbia University, for example, now faces a lawsuit that alleges "round-the-clock" harassment of Jewish students, who have been <u>punched</u>, <u>shoved</u>, <u>spat on</u> and blocked from attending classes. Other schools—including the University of Pennsylvania, NYU, UC Berkeley and Harvard—face similar lawsuits.

Fourth, donors should withhold gifts from colleges that refuse to act against antisemitism. Many donors have already ceased their giving, including Robert Kraft, CEO of the New England Patriots, who pulled his support from Columbia University due to unchecked Jew-

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hatred.

Fifth, restrict financial influence on U.S. campuses by America's enemies. The authors of a 2022 study conducted by the Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy (ISGAP) suggested a correlation between schools that receive foreign funding and antisemitic or anti-Israel rhetoric, as well as antisemitic activity. Sources from Qatar, which supports Hamas financially, for example, gave more than \$2.7 billion in gifts to American post-secondary institutions between 2014 and 2019.

Current behavior of the "pro-Palestinian" protesters at colleges and universities across the U.S. is hateful, harmful and too often unlawful—it's *terrorism on campus*. If recent outrages suffered by Jewish college students were directed against any other ethnic or "marginalized" groups on campus, it would <u>not be tolerated</u> for a minute, let alone seven months.

Please make the point when speaking with family, friends, colleagues—or in letters to the editor—that school administrators have a moral and legal duty to protect students from violence and hate, as well as impartially enforce their own policies and those of the state. Those who hesitate to act definitively must be fired. If schools themselves cannot keep order and ensure justice . . . state or federal authorities must be called in.

Best regards,

James Sinkinson, President

Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)

P.S. The events of October 7 have changed our world forever—and especially the world for Israel and the Jewish people. Likewise, the words "Never Again" will never be the same for us. October 7 has shown us that despite all promises of equity and commitments against hate on campus and on our streets, we can never depend on it. We will likely never be free of the scourge of antisemitism, fueled by the most outrageous slanders. I hope you'll agree that we opponents of Hamas and its savage massacre—and of all who support Hamas, against all humanitarian values—need to speak out. FLAME's new *hasbarah*—explanatory message—"Enemies of Israel Tell Five Big Lies"—refutes today's most vicious lies against Israel and the Jewish people. I hope you'll review this convincing, fact-based editorial, which FLAME published in the *Washington Post*, *New York Post*, *Chicago Tribune* and *Los Angeles Times*. 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 with a donation.

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