



FLAME.HOTLINE

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Former Washington Post editor Sally Buzbee resigned after refusing to publish negative stories about pro-Hamas campus demonstrators. Her foreign desk was staffed by six former Al Jazeera journalists, contributing to a consistent anti-Israel bias in the paper's coverage.

Despite UN report denying famine in Gaza, anti-Israel media continue the lie. Why?

Dear Friend of Israel, Friend of FLAME:

Many major American media are in a death spiral. News outlets like CNN, NPR and the *Washington Post* are losing audiences in droves, hemorrhaging cash and laying off staff.

A key reason for these failures is surely the media's lowest public trust rating in history. Indeed, a Gallup poll shows that nearly four in ten Americans have zero confidence in the media—a new record in distrust. Little wonder: So many former bastions of "objective coverage," like the *New York Times*, have abandoned balanced, fact-based reporting for journalism that blatantly pushes a biased, political agenda.

Nowhere is this bias more obvious than in the reporting by leading media on Israel in general, and its war against Hamas specifically. Even today, media like CNN, *New York Times* and NPR persist in trumpeting the lie that Gaza faces imminent famine—a myth they've been promoting hysterically for nearly nine months.

Yet amazingly, just last week, the UN's Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) issued a report stating there is no famine in Gaza: "The available evidence does not indicate that famine is currently occurring."

Almost since the Israel-Hamas war's beginning, the media have parroted the claim made by various aid organizations that famine is imminent or actually taking place in Gaza. Back in January, a CNN headline

THIS MONTH'S AD APPEARED IN MEDIA REACHING 10 MILLION PEOPLE NATIONWIDE.

YOU DESERVE TO KNOW THE TRUTH...

Stop Terrorism on Campus

Attacks on Israel and Jews on scores of American universities have exploded into a jihadi-fueled, violent revolution against American freedoms and values

While protesters violate school rules, state and federal laws... writing and destroying campus property, refusing access to Jewish students and physically attacking those who disagree with their terrorist ideology... grievous college administrators have failed to stop the insanity!

What are the facts?

Anti-American and anti-Semitic attacks on U.S. college campuses have skyrocketed by 70% since Hamas' October 7 massacre in Israel—and they've become more violent. Jewish students have been harassed, harmed from afar, and physically attacked by pro-Hamas demonstrators, reminiscent of Nazi behavior in 1930s Germany. Scandalously, while schools (often) have speech against Black, Muslim and LGBTQ+ students, they refuse to protect Jewish and anti-pro-Israel students.

Massive campus administrations—and faculty—have become so embroiled, they no longer hide their own in the United States.

Students have been harassed and expelled from their schools, and some have been expelled from their schools. Some have been expelled from their schools. Some have been expelled from their schools.

Their behavior is hateful, harmful and often unlawful

24 Congress must increase penalties related to antisemitic and hateful behavior on campus, on schools and retention of visas for foreign students who participate in antisemitic or unlawful activities.

All Colleges should face dire legal consequences for failing to stamp out antisemitism. Already Columbia University faces a lawsuit that alleges "wreck-the-school" harassment of Jewish students, who have been punched, shoved, spat on, blocked from attending classes and moving freely about campus. Dozens of other U.S. colleges face similar federal lawsuits.

43 Dozens should withhold gifts from colleges that refuse to act against antisemitism. Many donors have already caused their giving, including Robert Kraft, CEO of the New England Patriots, who pulled his support from Columbia University due to its unacknowledged law hatred.

The current behavior of "pro-Palestinian" activists at American colleges and universities is hateful, harmful and too often unlawful... antisemitic on campus. If your message is not to speak out against antisemitism, you are not speaking out against antisemitism. If your message is not to speak out against antisemitism, you are not speaking out against antisemitism. If your message is not to speak out against antisemitism, you are not speaking out against antisemitism.

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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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IF YOU SUPPORT PUBLISHING FLAME'S BOLD PR MESSAGES, 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

falsely claimed, “Hundreds of thousands are starving in Gaza as famine arrives at ‘incredible speed’”

Even today, despite the UN’s admission that no data support these famine fears, major media have continued to perpetuate unverified claims of starvation. Two weeks ago, *NPR*’s Hadeel al-Shalchi reported that “in Gaza, which aid groups say is on the brink of famine, food is hard to come by.” This, despite reports of overflowing Gaza markets.

If the media want to regain the trust of Americans—and aid their own survival—they would be well-advised to return to the tradition of balanced, fact-based journalism. They would abandon coverage that promotes strictly “progressive left” (especially anti-Israel) narratives that avoid offering facts and opinions that challenge their biases.

Big-name media are rapidly failing, losing their audience, losing money and losing staff. At the *Washington Post*, the number of digital subscribers has declined 15% since 2021, and the overall digital audience has declined by 28% over the same period. In October last year, the *Post* shed 10% of its workforce—likely a byproduct of losing \$77 million in 2023. *NPR* also let go of 10% of its workforce. Meanwhile, CNN has seen its primetime viewership decline by 24% year-over-year, the biggest decline among the major news networks.

Major news organizations suffer from anti-Israel bias. Uri Berliner, *NPR*’s former senior business editor, noted his former employer’s anti-Israel bias, saying *NPR* highlights “the suffering of Palestinians at almost every turn while downplaying the atrocities of October 7, overlooking how Hamas intentionally puts Palestinian civilians in peril, and giving little weight to the explosion of antisemitic hate around the world.”

Coverage of Israel at the *New York Times* is also famously biased, consistently using libelous terms to describe the Jewish state. According to a study by Israeli journalist Lilac Sigan and Bar Ilan University’s Professor Eytan Gilboa, the pejorative combination of “Israel” and “apartheid” appeared together 39 times in the *Times* during 2022, while the words “Israel” and “colonialism” appeared together 16 times. In contrast, the words “Hamas” and “terrorist organization” appeared together only 13 times.

At the *Washington Post*, at least six members of the foreign desk formerly wrote for Qatar-based *Al Jazeera*, including the paper’s Middle East editor, Jesse Mesner-Hage. *Al Jazeera* is financed by the Qatari government, which gives financial support to Hamas. An Israeli court described the network as an “intelligence and propaganda arm” for Hamas, and it is now banned in Israel. Nevertheless, the *Post* sees nothing wrong in hiring a clique of staffers who worked there.

The media have for nine months falsely reported starvation—and now distort the UN report in order to cover their lies. *Yahoo News*, for instance, published a headline last March saying “Gaza’s catastrophic food shortage means mass death is imminent.” In April, *Yahoo* said “U.S. Government Believes Famine Is Occurring in Gaza.” The IPC report proves these headlines dead wrong.

But instead of admitting to their audiences there is no famine in Gaza, the media emphasize the report’s speculation: “A ‘high risk’ of famine persists across the whole of the Gaza Strip, as long as conflict continues.” No mention that Hamas started and could instantly end the conflict by surrendering.

Rather, on June 25th, CNN published an article with the headline, “Gaza population at risk of famine as it continues to face emergency levels of hunger, report finds.” While their article ultimately mentioned the IPC’s conclusion there was currently no famine in Gaza, it buried this fact in paragraph ten. Worse still, the Instagram version completely omits this inconvenient truth.

Israel supporters alone cannot defeat corrupt media—but we can defeat their lies. The American people support Israel because they get their information from more reliable, alternative sources. We can be thankful for hundreds of pro-Israel media and advocates that report the truth, as well as millions of Israel supporters on social media.

Ultimately, the marketplace will decide the fates of these failing “legacy media.” Some are even seeing the error of their ways. At the *Washington Post*, for example, its editor, Sally Buzbee, resigned due to disputes with publisher Will Lewis over, among other issues, the outlet’s skewed Israel coverage. Buzbee was reluctant to investigate the financing of anti-Israel protests on American college campuses, and later revealed her daughter was participating in those protests. Perhaps the jihadi foreign desk will be next to go.

But the real weapon of Israel lovers against biased media is the truth. It’s spread by millions of individuals who speak up at work, on social media and at the dinner table. It’s also spread by hundreds of small media and organizations that fight media lies against Israel and spread the truth to Americans.

Please make the point when speaking with family, friends, colleagues—or in letters to the editor—that we need our media to stop pushing political agendas . . . and return to the honored tradition of balanced, fact-based journalism. Certainly, a majority of Americans—who support Israel’s brave fight against Islamist terrorists—would be grateful.

If you agree we need to spread this truth, please use your email browser to forward this Hotline issue to fellow lovers of Israel—and encourage them to join us by subscribing to the Hotline at no charge.

support a bold voice that tells the truth about Israel in American media, please donate now.

[DONATE NOW >>](#)

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

P.S. The riots, vandalism and illegal trespassing on American college campuses have sharpened the knives of the Israel haters. It's become clear that the "pro-Palestinian" protesters are purely anti-Israel and support the genocide of Jews "between the river and the sea." Scandalously, we've also seen hard evidence that university administrators are willing to ignore or openly support the antisemitic hate speech and harassment of Jewish students—though they would never permit such behavior against other minorities. I hope you'll agree that we supporters of Jewish students and hate-free campuses need to speak out. FLAME's new *hasbarah*—explanatory message—"Stop Terrorism on Campus"—calls for four actions to eliminate campus outlaws and to restore rights to all students. Please review this convincing, fact-based editorial, which FLAME has scheduled for publication in the *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Tampa Bay Times* and *Los Angeles Times* on July 7. 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.

As of today, more than 20,000 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**.



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