

J Street is Anti-Israel, Not “Pro-Palestinian”

J Street claims to support the human rights of Palestinian Arabs and work to ensure their protection. In reality, however, J Street’s actions demonstrate that it cares solely about demonizing Israel, as its anti-Israel policies actually hurt innocent Palestinian Arabs.

- J Street supports the Palestinian Authority (PA) and promotes the idea of the PA controlling a Palestinian Arab state. **The PA, however, persecutes Palestinian Arabs and denies them basic human rights.** The following are just a few examples:
 - The PA denies its citizens basic rights, such as freedom of speech and of the press. It jails journalists and Facebook users for writing or posting negatively about the government.
 - The PA jailed a man for six months in 2013 for ‘liking’ a post on Facebook that depicted PA President Mahmoud Abbas in a negative fashion.ⁱⁱ
 - The PA permits honor killings of women (killing women for acting “dishonorably” toward their families) under certain circumstances. These killings doubled in the PA from 2012 to 2013.ⁱⁱⁱ
 - The PA persecutes and tortures members of the LGBTQ community for the “crime” of being gay.^{iv}
 - The PA mistreats and tortures protesters and prisoners.
 - From June 2007 through December of 2011, PA security forces detained more than 13,000 Palestinian Arabs. **The PA tortured 96 percent of them, causing the death of six detainees** and “chronic illness” in others.^v
 - The Ramallah-based Palestinian Independent Commission on Human Rights (ICHR) reported that **the PA’s mistreatment and torture of its own citizens** rose 50 percent in 2013.^{vi}
 - In January 2014, **PA policemen used live ammunition** to disperse Palestinian stone-throwers in the center of Ramallah.^{vii}
 - PA President Mahmoud Abbas refuses to hold elections and allow his people to vote. Abbas’s term was supposed to end in 2009.
 - The PA incites Palestinian Arab children to believe that the killing of Jews and the destruction of Israel are morally acceptable.^{viii} Incitement to genocide is a UN-defined war crime.^{ix}

J Street ignores the PA’s human rights abuses against Palestinian Arab civilians and supports cementing the Palestinian Arabs’ future under this human rights-abusing and terror-promoting dictatorship.

- **J Street stays silent on human rights abuses and war crimes committed by Arab countries against the Palestinian Arabs.** J Street falsely condemns legitimate Israeli actions constantly, but remains silent when Palestinian Arabs are hurt and killed elsewhere.
 - For example, Syrian President Assad’s forces have killed more than 2,000 Palestinian Arabs (many of whom were civilians) since the beginning of the Syrian civil war. More than 100 of them were starved to death.^x
 - J Street has largely ignored Syrian Palestinian Arabs, instead choosing to continue criticizing Israel.

- Arab countries, such as Lebanon, have discriminatory laws that prevent Palestinian Arabs from gaining access to adequate housing, high-paying jobs (e.g. lawyer, doctor, engineer), and health care simply because of their status as Palestinian Arab by birth.^{xi}
 - **J Street has never condemned these discriminatory laws, instead choosing to attack Israel, the only country in the Middle East that grants full rights to its Arab citizens.**
- The International Commission for Human Rights (ICHR) issued a report in February 2014 outlining the PA's consistent human rights abuses against Palestinian Arabs.
 - **J Street did not condemn these PA human rights violations.** It is more than willing, however, to condemn building Jewish homes in Jerusalem.^{xii}
- Instead of focusing on real abuses against Palestinian Arabs, J Street supported the anti-Israel Goldstone Report that falsely accused Israel of war crimes during Operation Cast Lead in 2009.^{xiii} Even the author of the report, Judge Richard Goldstone, retracted the report two years later.^{xiv}
 - The report sympathized with Hamas, the internationally recognized terrorist group that uses Palestinian Arab children as human shields.^{xv}

ⁱ Gatestone Institute: *Freedom of Expression? Not for Palestinians*, February 13, 2013

ⁱⁱ Jerusalem Post: *Palestinian Jailed for 'Liking' Anti-PA Web Post*, March 31st, 2013

ⁱⁱⁱ The Algemeiner: *Honor Killings in Palestinian Authority Territory Double in One Year*, February 12, 2014

^{iv} Times of Israel: *Gay Palestinian to Court: Deport Me and I'll be Killed*, May 25, 2012

^v The Jerusalem Post: *UK-Based Arab HR Group Accuses PA of Abuse*, December 30, 2012

^{vi} Los Angeles Times: *Human Rights Complaints Rise in Palestinian Territories, Group Says*, May 8, 2014

^{vii} Gatestone Institute: *Palestinian Authority Human Rights Violations Ignored by Media, West*, February 11, 2014

^{viii} Palestinian Media Watch, *Children and Youth*, 2015.

^{ix} Incitement in International Criminal Law, *International Review of the Red Cross*, December 2008.

^x Gatestone Institute, International Policy Council, *Palestinians in Syria Killed, Injured, Displaced Arabs, Human Rights Organizations*, May 10, 2013

See Also: Ibid. Jerusalem Post, *Almost 2,000 Palestinians have died in Syrian Civil War*, December 19, 2013.

^{xi} Amnesty International, *Exiled and Suffering: Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon*, October 2007

^{xii} Palestinian Authority Human Rights Violations Ignored by Media, West. *Gatestone Institute*. February 11, 2014.

^{xiii} Honest Reporting: *Gaza and Goldstone*

^{xiv} The Washington Post: *Reconsidering the Goldstone Report on Israel and War Crimes*, April 1, 2011

^{xv} Conclusive Proof that Hamas Uses Palestinians as Human Shields. *Algemeiner*. August 7, 2014.