

# BDS is Anti-Semitic

---

The Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel spreads anti-Semitism and undermines the peace process.

---

## **BDS demonizes and delegitimizes the only Jewish state.**

- BDS is an anti-Semitic movement because it spreads lies about the only Jewish state in an attempt to isolate it politically, economically, and socially.
- Omar Barghouti, the co-founder of the BDS movement, spreads anti-Semitic propaganda.
  - He stated that Israeli soldiers “shoot Palestinian children for sport” in a speech he made at UCLA in January of 2014.<sup>i</sup> This is a direct manifestation of the blood libel that accuses Jews of killing Christians “for fun.”
  - Barghouti argues that Israel is a fascist state,<sup>ii</sup> directly comparing Israel to the Nazi regime.<sup>iii</sup>
    - Equating Israel’s liberal democracy with the genocidal Nazi regime is a classic form anti-Semitic propaganda, according to the U.S. State Department,<sup>iv</sup> as it spreads lies about the only Jewish state and offends the real victims of genocide.
  - Barghouti likens the right of self-determination for the Jewish people with “racism and hatred.”<sup>v</sup> Demonizing only the Jewish people’s right to self-determination is discriminatory and racist.
- Campus speakers who advocate for BDS often spread blatant anti-Semitism.
  - Muhammed Desai, the National Coordinator of the South African chapter of BDS, incites the killing of Jews.
    - In 2013, he organized a protest of an Israeli musician in South Africa and started a chant, screaming, ‘**Shoot the Jew.**’<sup>vi</sup>
  - In 2014, the SJP (Students for Justice in Palestine) at Brooklyn College hosted Steven Salaita.<sup>vii</sup>
    - Salaita advocates for anti semitism as a logical response to the Arab-Israeli Conflict. He even praised Hamas’ kidnapping and murder of Israeli teenagers in June of 2014.
      - Shortly after the kidnapping, he tweeted, “You may be too refined to say it, but I’m not: I wish all the fucking West Bank settlers would go missing.”  
- Salaita via Twitter on June 19, 2014.

**The BDS movement imposes an unfair double standard on Israel, the only liberal democracy in the Middle East.** Solely targeting the Jewish state is a direct manifestation of anti-Semitism, as defined by the U.S. government.<sup>viii</sup>

- Freedom House ranks Israel as the *only* completely free country in the Middle East,<sup>ix</sup> yet **BDS only targets the Jewish state.** The BDS movement ignores countries (Saudi Arabia, North Korea, Syria, etc.) with the worst human rights records.
- **The founders and supporters of the BDS movement regularly call for the destruction of the Jewish State:**
  - The following BDS leaders support the elimination of the Jewish state by way of a “one-state solution” with an Arab majority:
    - Mazin Qumsiyeh (Co-founder al-Awda, a group with close ties to the US-designated terrorist group Hamas<sup>x</sup>)
    - Ali Abunimah (equates Jewish self-determination to genocide<sup>xi</sup>)
    - Max Blumenthal (author of the anti-Semitic book, *Goliath*, which anti-Semites, conspiracy theorists and neo-Nazis cite on a regular basis<sup>xii</sup>)

- Omar Barghouti, co-founder and leader of the BDS movement, denies the Jewish people's right to self-determination.<sup>xiii</sup> Barghouti admits that the campaign against Israel will not end if the Palestinian-Arabs get their own state.<sup>xiv</sup> He also defends the second intifada,<sup>xv</sup> a wave of terrorist attacks that murdered innocent Israeli and Palestinian-Arab civilians.
- Ahmed Moor, a pro-BDS author consistently cited by the movement's leaders, stated, "*Ending the occupation doesn't mean anything if it doesn't mean upending the Jewish state itself...BDS does mean the end of the Jewish state.*"<sup>xvi</sup>

### **BDS attacks individuals and institutions associated with Judaism.**

- Oftentimes, after a BDS divestment bill is introduced, anti-Semitic activists graffiti swastikas on Jewish students' living places.<sup>xvii</sup>
- UCLA's student government, a strong supporter of BDS, **rejected a Jewish student's nomination to the school's Judicial Board solely because of her religion.**<sup>xviii</sup>
- The student government of Durban University of Technology in South Africa, a pro-BDS body, **called for the expulsion of all Jewish students from campus.**<sup>xix</sup>
- Members of the BDS movement boycotted an Anglo-Israeli cosmetic shop in Manchester, UK. Several BDS members were caught on camera expressing support for Hitler and giving Nazi salutes. These "activists" indiscriminately threatened Jews of all ages and distributed anti-Semitic leaflets to the public.<sup>xx</sup>

Hillary Clinton wrote a letter to Jewish organization leaders describing the threat of BDS and urging that "Particularly at a time when anti-Semitism is on the rise across the world — especially in Europe — we need to repudiate forceful efforts to malign and undermine Israel and the Jewish people."<sup>xxi</sup>

<sup>i</sup> The Jewish Journal, *Omar Barghouti at UCLA: A speaker who brings hate*, January 16, 2014.

<sup>ii</sup> Omar Barghouti, via YouTube, *The Guardian*. April 6th, 2011.

<sup>iii</sup> *Omar Barghouti at UCLA: Echoes of 1930's Europe* spme.org January 16, 2014.

<sup>iv</sup> U.S. Department of State: *Defining Anti-Semitism*, June 8, 2010.

<sup>v</sup> *Strategies for Change*. Vimeo. Omar Barghouti. September, 2013.

<sup>vi</sup> *South Africa BDS leader defends call to 'kill the Jew'* Jerusalem Post. September 2, 2013.

<sup>vii</sup> *Silencing Dissent: A Conversation With Steven Salaita, Katherine Franke And Corey Robin*. SJP at Brooklyn College Website. November 6, 2014.

<sup>viii</sup> U.S. Department of State: *Defining Anti-Semitism*, June 8, 2010.

<sup>ix</sup> Freedom House: *Middle East and North Africa, Countries and Topics*.

<sup>x</sup> Anti-Defamation League, *Background: Mazin Qumsiyeh*, March 8, 2007.

<sup>xi</sup> NGO Monitor, *Electronic Intifada and Ali Abunimah Fact Sheet*, January 14, 2011.

<sup>xii</sup> "Max Blumenthal's 'Goliath' and the Mainstreaming of Anti-Semitism," *The Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law*, February 17, 2014.

<sup>xiii</sup> "Omar Barghouti at UCLA: Echoes of 1930's Europe," *Scholars for Peace in the Middle East*, January 18, 2014.

<sup>xiv</sup> "Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS): An Introduction," *Honest Reporting*, January 2012.

<sup>xv</sup> *Philippe Assouline debates BDS founder Omar Barghouti on anti-Israel radio show (SoCal)*. Via YouTube. May 8, 2014.

<sup>xvi</sup> "BDS is a long term project with radically transformative potential," *Mondoweiss*, April 22, 2010.

<sup>xvii</sup> <http://www.stanforddaily.com/2015/04/26/sae-painted-with-anti-semitic-graffiti> & <http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-jewish-fraternity-davis-swastikas-20150201-story.html>

<sup>xviii</sup> *The New York Times*. "In U.C.L.A. Debate Over Jewish Student, Echoes on Campus of Old Biases." Adam Nagourney. March 5, 2015.

<sup>xix</sup> *The Algemeiner*. "South African University Rejects Student Council's Call for Expulsion of Jews, Brands Demand 'Totally Unacceptable.'" Shiryn Ghermezian. February 11, 2015.

<sup>xx</sup> *BDS Activist in UK Accused of Nazi Salute Outside Israeli-Owned Store (VIDEO)* *The Algemeiner*. JANUARY 2, 2015.

<sup>xxi</sup> *The New York Times*. "Hillary Clinton Chides Boycott Effort in Letter to Supporters." Amy Chozick and Nicholas Confessore. July 6, 2015.