

LET'S BE HONEST

BDS - THE REAL STORY



Refuting the Lies

BY THE JERUSALEM INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE



The Jerusalem Institute of Justice is a non-profit human rights organization that promotes and protects the rule of law, human dignity and democracy in Israel and the Middle East.

In the course of our investigation of the activities and intentions of the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement, we uncovered the true agenda of the its leaders - the destruction of the State of Israel and the undermining of peace efforts in the region.

In this eBook, we shine some light on common claims made by the BDS supporters. We explain the misapplication of widely used terms and point to the true meaning behind them.

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The BDS Movement

The Claim

The BDS movement claims that by targeting Israeli cultural, academic, and economic institutions, it can pressure the Israeli government to comply with three main goals:

1. Ending Israeli occupation of Arab lands
2. Promoting equals rights for Arab-Israelis
3. Securing the Right of Return for Palestinian refugees



The Truth

BDS is an extremist, anti-Zionist movement masked in human rights whose true goal is the end of the State of Israel and to replace it with a sovereign Palestinian state.

Liberalism

The Claim

Israel violates the individual rights of Palestinians and treats them unequally, and thus, it is not a liberal state.

The Truth

Israel is the most liberal state in the Middle East and protects the rights of both Israelis and Palestinians.

Antisemitism

What is it?

Hatred of the Jews, which can manifest itself by calling for Jews to be killed, demonizing Jews, or blaming all Jews for the wrongs of an individual.

How does it connect to BDS?

Anti-Zionism is often a pretext for antisemitism. Denying the right of Jews to self-determination is a form of modern-day antisemitism.

A p a r t h e i d

The Claim

Similar to South Africa's apartheid policy against people of color, Israel discriminates against Arab-Israelis and Palestinians by infringing on their rights.



The Truth

The definition of apartheid does not match the situation in Israel.

Arab-Israelis enjoy equal rights under the law, including the right to vote.

Palestinians are free to travel into Israel and must simply cross a checkpoint, similar to other demarcations of territory.

The Palestinian Authority is responsible for the maltreatment of most Palestinians, who live in areas controlled by this group.

De-Legitimization

The Claim

As an apartheid state, Israel does not deserve to be a member of the international community.



The Truth

Israel is a contributing member to the international community, contributing through trade relationships with many countries, active membership in numerous international organizations and through foreign aid to crisis zones.



Palestinian Refugees

The Claim

The 1948 War of Independence resulted in 750,000 Palestinian refugees and that number has grown to 5 million today, all of whom claim to have the right to return to their land.



The Truth

The Palestinian refugee status, differently from all other refugees in the world, is granted to all descendants of refugees. Instead of seeking to solve the refugee crisis, Arab states and the Palestinian Authority use it as a political weapon against Israel.

If all Palestinian refugees were granted the right of return, it would be the end of the State of Israel.



Occupation

The Claim

Israel is conducting an occupation in Gaza, East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Golan Heights.



The Truth

Israel has proven it is willing to give up these territories (which are disputed, not occupied) in a comprehensive peace agreement.

There has never been Palestinian sovereignty in these territories, so it begs the question: who is Israel occupying?

Settler Colonialism

The Claim

Israel is a settler colonialist state that was artificially established in the region and in the process, disregarded the people who were already living there.



The Truth

Jews have always had a presence and a connection to this land and thus, the creation of Israel was not artificial, but the recognition of this connection.



Human Rights and BDS

The Claim

Israel violates Palestinian human rights and therefore, the BDS movement is one that promotes human rights.



The Truth

The BDS movement ignores the human rights violations of the Palestinian Authority and calls for the end of the Jewish state.



Omar Barghouti

Who is he?

**The founder of
the BDS
movement.**



What is his story?

Barghouti has benefitted greatly from Israeli institutions. Rather than boycotting them, he has received a Master's Degree and a PhD from Tel Aviv University.

What does he want?

It is clear that his intention is not the creation of two-states, but to destroy Israel.



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