

Students for  
Justice in Palestine:

A

HATE

GROUP

by Daniel Greenfield

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## **Students for Justice in Palestine: A Hate Group**

We don't expect to find a hate group in the modern diverse college campus. Today's university is multicultural, and it's enlightened. But when Jewish students and organizations seek help, speak out, file bias incident reports and even Title VI complaints with the Office for Civil Rights, their voices are mostly ignored because Jews are perceived as successful and powerful and maybe overly sensitive. Hatred has been outlawed on the campus, armies of diversity and sensitivity professionals have been hired to eradicate and outlaw bigotry and hatred. So these ugly things can't happen here. They can't happen at Vassar, Northeastern University, or at NYU or the University of California. Oh yes they can.

Behind the lofty mottos and codes of ethics, the manicured lawns and diverse student bodies, Students for Justice in Palestine is a well-organized and well-financed festering hate group with chapters in the country's most elite colleges. Its bigotry operates with the consent of administrators and faculty.

Its speakers promote the murder of Jews and the denial of the Holocaust while their appearances are funded with student fees.

Its chapters have been sanctioned and condemned for their bigoted activities, but no university has been willing to clearly and consistently denounce this hate group's presence on campus.

The educated, multicultural members of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) may defy some expectations of what a hate group looks like, but they are part of the most pervasive hate group on the modern college campus.

There is only one appropriate answer to this bigotry and that is for universities to realize that a hate group like SJP has no place on campus. SJP supporters have the right to free speech. They do not have the right to promote bigotry, incite hatred in an academic setting and create a hostile learning environment, all with university funding and support.

## Behind the Hate

The FBI defines a hate group as “an organization whose primary purpose is to promote animosity, hostility, and malice” based on, among other things, race, religion and national origin.

Despite the small number of American Jews, FBI statistics show that they are the targets of two-thirds of religious hate crimes.<sup>1</sup> Jews are more likely to be the targets of hate crimes than individuals of any other race or ethnicity.<sup>2</sup>

Anti-Semitism can manifest based on ethnicity, religion and national origin. That is why the State Department’s report on contemporary anti-Semitism found that “Anti-Semitism has proven to be an adaptive phenomenon” and that the new forms of anti-Semitism combine elements of traditional ethnic and religious bigotry with a renewed emphasis on national origin through

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<sup>1</sup> <http://washington.cbslocal.com/2013/11/26/fbi-62-percent-of-religious-hate-crimes-are-anti-jewish/>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/hate-crime/2012/topic-pages/victims/victims\\_final](http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/hate-crime/2012/topic-pages/victims/victims_final). There are more hate crimes in the FBI’s list against African Americans than against Jews, but there are far fewer Jews. The per capita rate for Jews is thus higher.

Israel, the Jewish State.<sup>3</sup>

“The distinguishing feature of the new anti-Semitism is criticism of Zionism or Israeli policy that—whether intentionally or unintentionally—has the effect of promoting prejudice against all Jews by demonizing Israel and Israelis and attributing Israel’s perceived faults to its Jewish character,” the report found.

The European Monitoring Center on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) listed examples of the new anti-Semitism<sup>4</sup> which include:

1. Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination.
2. Applying double standards by requiring of the Jewish State behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
3. Using the symbols and images associated with classic anti-Semitism to characterize Israel or Israelis.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/102301.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.european-forum-on-antisemitism.org/working-definition-of-antisemitism/english/>

4. Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.

These examples were reaffirmed by the Ottawa Protocol on Combating Antisemitism<sup>5</sup> which stated that, “Singling Israel out for selective condemnation and opprobrium - let alone denying its right to exist or seeking its destruction - is discriminatory and hateful, and not saying so is dishonest.”<sup>6</sup>

“Singling out” Israel as purely evil and calling for its punishment and ultimate destruction is SJP’s entire *raison d’etre*.

The State Department’s report warned that “the collective effect of unremitting criticism of Israel, coupled with a failure to pay attention to regimes that are demonstrably guilty of grave violations, has the effect of reinforcing the notion that the Jewish state is one of the sources, if not the greatest source, of abuse of the rights of others, and thus intentionally or not, encourages anti-Semitism.”<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.antisem.org/archive/ottawa-protocol-on-combating-antisemitism/>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.cbc.ca/newsblogs/politics/inside-politics-blog/2010/11/for-the-record-the-full-text-of-the-ottawa-protocol.html>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/102301.pdf>

As the case studies in this report will show, Students for Justice in Palestine’s chapters have engaged in a relentless campaign of attacks against Jews and Israel while promoting anti-Semitism on campus with a range of bigotry that exploits both the new anti-Semitism and the old.

All four of the EUMC’s examples of the new anti-Semitism turn up in the routine activism of SJP.

Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) rejects “normalization” and dialogue<sup>8</sup> and instead advocates anti-Israel boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) campaigns, disruptions and silencing of pro-Israel voices on campus by aggressive campus confrontations and intimidation. Its Points of Unity<sup>9</sup> call for the punishment and even the destruction of Israel and are therefore a denial of the Jewish people’s right to self-determination.

Chants such as “From the river to the sea,

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<sup>8</sup> <http://www.adl.org/israel-international/anti-israel-activity/c/ant-normalization-campaign.html>

<sup>9</sup> <http://sjpnational.org/2011/10/18/student-organizations-resolve-organize-nationally-palestine/>



Palestine will be free”<sup>10,11</sup> (a goal that would eliminate the Jewish state) or activism on behalf of a “One State Solution”<sup>12,13</sup> that would also erase the Jewish State embody the goals of denial and destruction.

SJP’s criticism of Israel is devoid of any context or proportion. The use of anti-Semitic imagery, such as Jews drinking blood or eating babies, or “Stars of David emblazoned with swastikas,” as described by the State Department report, is habitual.<sup>14,15,16</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2014/charles-jacobs-and-ilya-feoktistov/campus-free-speech-for-jew-haters-only/>

<sup>11</sup> [http://www.cameraoncampus.org/blog/sjp-v-mercado-a-fair-fight/#.U9F\\_x\\_lr7J8](http://www.cameraoncampus.org/blog/sjp-v-mercado-a-fair-fight/#.U9F_x_lr7J8)

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.browndailyherald.com/2012/03/13/ingber-15-since-when-has-the-twostate-solution-become-passe/>

<sup>13</sup> [http://www.jewishjournal.com/opinion/article/omar\\_barghouti\\_at\\_ucla\\_echoes\\_of\\_1930s\\_europe](http://www.jewishjournal.com/opinion/article/omar_barghouti_at_ucla_echoes_of_1930s_europe)

<sup>14</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/05/vassar-president-condemns-racist-anti-semitic-graphic-posted-by-students-for-justice-in-palestine/>

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.truthrevolt.org/israel-revolt/brandeis-sjp-keeps-anti-semitic-cartoon-fb-page>

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2012/richard-l-cravatts/north-eastern-us-students-for-justice-in-palestine-cheerlead-hamas-call-for-the-murder-of-jews/>

Nazi analogies are an integral part of SJP activism.<sup>17,18,19</sup> An example of this is “Never Again for Anyone,” an event routinely sponsored by SJP chapters, which has no other purpose than to compare Israel to Nazi Germany and Jews to Nazis.<sup>20</sup>

And yet, SJP has gone beyond comparing Jews to Nazis by using Nazi anti-Semitic propaganda as its source material. Its anti-Semitism is drawn from the crudest well of hate and applied in campaigns against Jewish and Israeli students that mirror the attacks on Jewish students in 1930s Germany.

SJP insists that its hostility is political, not ethnic, religious or racial, but its chapters repeatedly attack Israel for its Jewishness with accusations of “Jewish Supremacism,” with anti-Semitic tropes and even Nazi literature. No other country is the

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<sup>17</sup> <http://www.adl.org/press-center/press-releases/israel-middle-east/adl-says-primary-organizer-of.html>

<sup>18</sup> [http://www.mindingthecampus.com/2012/12/israel\\_and\\_the\\_problem\\_at\\_nort/](http://www.mindingthecampus.com/2012/12/israel_and_the_problem_at_nort/)

<sup>19</sup> <http://blog.adl.org/international/vassar-college-president-to-investigate-anti-israel-student-group-activity>

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.adl.org/israel-international/anti-israel-activity/c/never-again-for-anyone-tour.html>

target of an international campus organization whose purpose is to destroy it. No students from any other ethnic, religious or national group have been subjected to an equivalent campaign of bigoted harassment and intimidation.

## **History of Students for Justice in Palestine**

Students for Justice in Palestine was co-founded by Hatem Bazian. Bazian had become notorious for his harassment of Jewish students at San Francisco State University where he had fought to bar Jewish students from student government,<sup>21</sup> promoted an anti-Semitic mural and attacked the Jewish campus organization Hillel as well as Jewish students working at a student newspaper.<sup>22,23</sup>

Rabbi Doug Kahn of the San Francisco Jewish Community Relations Council said, “Hatem Bazian was more responsible than any other student on campus for trying to make life miserable for Jewish

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<sup>21</sup> Kevin Bark, “Campus Jews Struggle With Anti-Semitism,” *Golden Gater*, May 1993

<sup>22</sup> Jeffrey Yitzchak Santis, “Anti-Semitism at SFSU Worthy of ‘Twilight Zone,’” *Jewish Bulletin*, May 1993

<sup>23</sup> Jonathan Mahler, “Howard’s End: Why a Leading Jewish Studies Scholar Gave Up His Academic Career,” *Lingua Franca*, March 1997

students.”<sup>24</sup>

From its origins, SJP closely intersected with the Muslim Students Association, which has close ties to the Muslim Brotherhood,<sup>25</sup> a violently anti-Semitic organization whose spinoffs include Al Qaeda and Hamas. Students for Justice in Palestine has a long track record of working together with Islamists, including the Islamic Association of Palestine<sup>26</sup> and American Muslims for Palestine.<sup>27</sup>

Bazian founded American Muslims for Palestine, a group which coordinated with SJP and provided training to SJP activists,<sup>28</sup> and whose board and leadership also included Hamas fundraisers.<sup>29</sup> The AMP had roots in the IAP,<sup>30</sup> a

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<sup>24</sup> Ibid

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.discoverthenetworks.org/printgroupProfile.asp?grpId=6175>

<sup>26</sup> <http://www.discoverthenetworks.org/Articles/sjpstand4facts25.html>

<sup>27</sup> [http://www.adl.org/main\\_Anti\\_Israel/amp\\_student\\_activity.htm](http://www.adl.org/main_Anti_Israel/amp_student_activity.htm)

<sup>28</sup> Ibid

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.investigativeproject.org/3346/american-muslims-for-palestine-web-of-hamas>

<sup>30</sup> <http://www.adl.org/assets/pdf/israel-international/american-muslims-for-palestine-2013-03-29-v1.pdf>

Hamas front group which raised money for the terrorist organization and was co-founded by a Hamas leader.<sup>31</sup> SJP has extensively partnered with AMP.<sup>32,33</sup>

Another co-founder of SJP was Snehal Shingavi of the International Socialist Organization. The ISO is a splinter Trotskyist group with a history of supporting terrorists.<sup>34</sup> Shingavi supports the destruction of Israel<sup>35</sup> and has stated that “the occupation” began with the creation of Israel.<sup>36</sup>

Lurking behind the seemingly secular and non-partisan SJP was an alliance between Islamist and Marxist groups which had found points of agreement in a common history of anti-Semitism

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<sup>31</sup> <http://archive.frontpagemag.com/readArticle.aspx?ARTID=20983>

<sup>32</sup> <http://www.adl.org/israel-international/anti-israel-activity/c/students-justice-palestine.html#.U9GQ1flr7J8>

<sup>33</sup> <http://www.investigativeproject.org/3313/sjp-dialogue-goes-nowhere>

<sup>34</sup> <http://www.discoverthenetworks.org/printgroupProfile.asp?grpId=6399>

<sup>35</sup> <http://socialistworker.org/2008/08/08/one-state-with-equal-rights>

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.campus-watch.org/article/id/49>

and support for Hamas.<sup>37</sup> This bigotry, religious and political, would find expression time and again at SJP chapters.

### **Case #1: Vassar College**

Vassar's Students for Justice in Palestine chapter was only created in 2013,<sup>38</sup> but within a short time it became one the most notorious SJP chapters in the country. A year later, the President of Vassar College was forced to condemn its anti-Semitism and to order it to cease representing itself as an official Vassar group.<sup>39</sup>

Nicole Massad, its interim president, started out by insisting that “anti-Zionism is not anti-Semitism.”<sup>40</sup> Like so many other chapters, SJP

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<sup>37</sup> <http://hurryupharry.org/2010/07/24/our-trots-are-smarter-than-your-trots/>

<sup>38</sup> <http://newspaperarchives.vassar.edu/cgi-bin/vassar?a=d&d=miscellany20131003-01.2.23&e=-----197-en-20-miscellany-1--txt>

<sup>39</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/05/vassar-president-condemns-racist-anti-semitic-graphic-posted-by-students-for-justice-in-palestine/>

<sup>40</sup> <http://newspaperarchives.vassar.edu/cgi-bin/vassar?a=d&d=miscellany20131003-01.2.23&e=-----197-en-20-miscellany-1--txt>

Vassar showed that its anti-Zionism was anti-Semitism.

From the beginning, SJP Vassar was determined to target International Studies 110<sup>41</sup> because the class's focus on how Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinian Arabs negotiated water resources was deemed too constructive and insufficiently conflict-oriented.

Previous IS class trips had traveled to countries that routinely violated human rights, including China, Cuba and Russia.<sup>42</sup> The trips were not a political endorsement. The freedom to study a subject is at the heart of academic freedom. It is this freedom that SJP and other organizations associated with BDS have attempted to stifle through harassment and intimidation.

It is why SJP's presence on campus is incompatible with academic freedom.

Jeremy Garza, a member of SJP Vassar, said that he wanted the class to focus on the conflict

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<sup>41</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/03/anti-israel-academic-boycott-turns-ugly-at-vassar/>

<sup>42</sup> <http://internationalstudies.vassar.edu/about/>

with Israel. Massad claimed that the visit was supporting the Israeli Ministry of Tourism and accused the United States of funding “Israel’s slaughter and attempted eradication of Palestinian and Lebanese civilians.”<sup>43</sup>

Garza and Massad’s claims were blatantly false. One of the purposes of the trip had been to look at “disparities in water distribution in Palestine and Israel.”<sup>44</sup> This was the very issue that SJP Vassar claimed it wanted to focus on.

Professor Jill Schneiderman, who organized the class trip, described it on her own blog as a means of understanding “how daily and future access to clean water in ample supply is one of the key issues about which people in the region fight.” The interviews with class members in *The Vassar Chronicle* after the trip were not at all favorable to

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<sup>43</sup> <http://newspaperarchives.vassar.edu/cgi-bin/vassar?a=d&d=miscellany20131003-01.2.23&e=-----197-en-20-miscellany-1--txt>

<sup>44</sup> <http://spme.org/spme-statements/statement-scholars-peace-middle-east-spme-regarding-vassar-colleges-recent-controversy-involving-students-justice-palestine-sjp-international-studies-tra/17265/>



Israel.<sup>45</sup>

Professor Schneiderman, who had described a terrorist convicted of stabbing Israeli soldiers as “a member of the armed resistance,” was certainly not selling a pro-Israel perspective. The only possible reason for such an assumption by SJP members would have been her Jewishness.

Nor was she ignoring the conflict. Instead she was presenting the traditional academic view of water resource issues as sources of conflict and cooperation.

The trip was organized with the assistance of EWASH, a stridently anti-Israel organization, along with Friends of the Earth Middle East, a coordinating organization for Jordanian, Israeli and Palestinian Arab environmentalists with a Water Accord calling for “water justice.” The organization’s directors had been named among *Time Magazine*’s “100 Environmental Heroes” and the group had received the Euro-Med Award for Dialogue.<sup>46</sup>

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<sup>45</sup> <http://www.scribd.com/doc/218552837/Vassar-Chronicle-April-2014>

<sup>46</sup> [http://foeme.org/www/?module=about\\_us&record\\_id=13](http://foeme.org/www/?module=about_us&record_id=13)

It was this commitment to dialogue that ran counter to the organizational mission of Students for Justice in Palestine which opposes all normalization and dialogue. The closest thing to an SJP anthem is “Normalize This!” from Remi Kanazi. Kanazi is an anti-Israel poet who was brought in by SJP Vassar, as well as by most of the SJP chapters who form this report’s case studies of the hate group.

Kanazi’s declaration -- “No, I don’t want to normalize with you, I don’t want to hug, have coffee, talk it out, break bread, sit around the campfire, eat s’mores and gush about how we’re all the same” – embodies SJP’s attitude toward any attempt at coexistence.

Instead, SJP Vassar protesters harassed the class and handed out leaflets telling students that their “physical presence in the occupied country of Palestine” was an endorsement of Apartheid.

Professor Rachel Friedman, who co-led the trip, described being forced to walk a picket line to enter her class while protesters shrilled and screamed, creating an atmosphere of intimidation.<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> <http://mystical-politics.blogspot.com/2014/03/bds-and-attack-upon-academic-freedom-at.html>

She called the protest “a new kind of transgression” that “crossed a line that no other protest crossed.”

Some of her students described feeling “unsafe,” “bullied,” and “harassed.” SJP Vassar was no longer just articulating a point of view; it was attempting to shut down a class, whose students included both Muslims and Jews, for engaging in dialogue and showing that both conflict and cooperation were taking place between Muslims and Jews in the Middle East.

The existence of such cooperation violated SJP’s radical anti-normalization doctrine that there could be no resolution of the conflict through dialogue, only through conflict.

Conflict as the only solution, harassment, segregation, boycotts, form the heart of the BDS movement and SJP. Hate groups reject the very idea of a peaceful resolution and dialogue, while their absolute insistence on conflict leads SJP chapters to declare war on the pro-Israel student community, which are mainly Jewish and Israeli students.

Instead of calling SJP Vassar to account for

its actions, Vassar’s Committee on Inclusion and Excellence forum further emboldened the SJP. Professor Schneiderman described being “knocked off-center by a belligerent academic community dedicated to vilifying anyone who dares set foot in Israel.”

The radical anti-Israel blogger Philip Weiss wrote that “torrents of anger ripped through the gathering. Most of them were directed at Israel or its supporters.”<sup>48</sup>

A student representative of the left-wing group J Street described how SJP’s bigotry had made her feel:

“My Israel identity is important to me. It is super intimidating to walk into the College Center and feel that my core identity is being questioned. It’s really difficult to come to terms with hearing that a place you call your homeland shouldn’t exist,” she said.

The concerns that Jewish students and faculty

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<sup>48</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/03/anti-israel-academic-boy-cott-turns-ugly-at-vassar/>

members had expressed about SJP were not taken seriously. The “torrents of anger” continued to flow. Vassar’s tolerance for SJP’s attacks on the identities of Jewish and Israeli students led inevitably to the next phase of the crisis.

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, the SJP Vassar Tumblr slammed an appearance by Professor William Jacobson of Legal Insurrection and warned that it would not be hindered by “calls for ‘civil’ dialogue.”<sup>49</sup> Accompanying it was a reblog of a message from Redplebian, a self-described “Revolutionary Socialist,” who denounced Jews for “throwing around charges of anti-Semitism.”

“I want them, the Pro-Israelis, to feel like they have to be on the defensive all the time, instead of us with the ‘antisemitic’ fear-mongering bull shit,” he wrote.<sup>50</sup>

That was followed by a cartoon depicting a Palestinian “Holocaust” and quoted text from the notoriously anti-Semitic Joseph Massad

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<sup>49</sup> <http://sjpvassar.tumblr.com/post/85055055090/the-case-for-israel-is-falling-apart>

<sup>50</sup> <http://sjpvassar.tumblr.com/post/85078886360/combating-the-baseless-slander-of-antisemitism>

denouncing “Jewish Supremacy.” After urging a campaign to make “the costs of Jewish supremacy too high,” he called for “resistance” to institutions “that uphold Jewish supremacy.”

“The elimination of Jewish supremacy,” he wrote, must be the major goal of a “real peace process.”<sup>51</sup>

SJP Vassar then added a meme claiming, “I am not Anti-Jew, I am Anti-Zionism.”

Vassar’s SJP chapter was clumsily trying to build a defense against anti-Semitism, even while engaging in overt anti-Semitism.

A few days earlier on May 4<sup>th</sup>, SJP Vassar’s Tumblr had already crossed the unambiguous line into classic anti-Semitism by reblogging material from the *Occidental Quarterly*,<sup>52</sup> a white nationalist publication described by the ADL as “online anti-Semitism’s new voice.”<sup>53</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> <http://sjpvassar.tumblr.com/post/85080101430/it-is-the-palestinians-who-have-had-to-pay-the>

<sup>52</sup> <http://mystical-politics.blogspot.com/2014/05/vassar-college-students-for-justice-in.html>

<sup>53</sup> <http://www.adl.org/combating-hate/domestic-extremism-terrorism/c/the-occidental-observer.html>

“Every day, it seems, the mythic foundations of Israel’s legitimacy—the holocaust, Jewish victimhood, Jewish ‘people,’ Israeli ‘democracy,’ ‘evil’ Muslims—are exposed for all to see,” the essay gloated.

Greg Felton, its author, had written a book called *The Host and the Parasite: How Israel’s Fifth Column Consumed America*. He claimed that Zionists were behind September 11,<sup>54</sup> that Hamas was “a principled defender of Palestine” and that Jews were actually “Turko-Finnic” impostors.

SJP Vassar also reblogged a cartoon mocking Israel and the Holocaust from a white nationalist blog<sup>55</sup> and retweeted material from a Nazi account.<sup>56</sup>

Professor Rebecca Lesses of Ithaca College notified SJP Vassar through its Tumblr account

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<sup>54</sup> <http://www.canada.com/vancouver/sun/news/editorial/story.html?id=8f4a3c29-1ad4-43fc-bb49-b627feac1810>

<sup>55</sup> <http://mystical-politics.blogspot.com/2014/05/sjp-vassar-and-white-nationalism.html>

<sup>56</sup> <https://storify.com/InTheSoupAgain/anti-zionists-gleefully-use-neo-nazi-material>

that they were posting racist material. “Occidental Quarterly is a white nationalist publication, that doesn’t mean everything they say is invalid,” SJP Vassar’s Twitter account replied.<sup>57</sup>

When challenged about the Occidental Quarterly article on Facebook, SJP Vassar replied that, “If the idea is alright, who cares where they come from?”<sup>58</sup> On the group’s Tumblr, SJP Vassar tried to counter the outrage over its use of white supremacist anti-Semitism with anti-Semitism of another flavor.

SJP Vassar reblogged material from Stokely Carmichael suggesting that Africans were Jews and Jews weren’t.<sup>59</sup> As we shall see at Rutgers, this attempt to counter charges of anti-Semitism through a complete denial of Jewish identity is one of the uglier anti-Semitic tricks in the SJP toolbox.

Carmichael, a supporter of the racist Louis

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<sup>57</sup> <http://mystical-politics.blogspot.com/2014/05/sjp-vassar-and-white-nationalism.html>

<sup>58</sup> <http://mystical-politics.blogspot.com/2014/05/more-from-sjp-vassar-it-is-alright-to.html>

<sup>59</sup> <http://sjpvassar.tumblr.com/post/85385730205/unfortunately-they-dont-know-what-zionism-is>



Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam, had become notorious for statements such as, “I have never admired a White man, but the greatest of them was Hitler,” “The only good Zionist is a dead Zionist,” and “We must take a lesson from Hitler.”

Reacting to the backlash against its use of white supremacist material, SJP Vassar was using Carmichael as proof that minority radicals could admire and borrow white supremacist anti-Semitism without putting their credentials into question. That was followed by a Malcolm X article on “Zionist Dollarism,” revisiting a classic anti-Semitic trope about Jews and money in anti-Zionist camouflage..

SJP Vassar followed that up with a Nazi propaganda poster depicting a gigantic composite monster with an American flag flying on top and a Jewish Star of David dangling from the bottom.<sup>60</sup> The poster was the last straw and finally triggered a belated Vassar investigation of it as a bias incident.<sup>61</sup>

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<sup>60</sup> <http://mystical-politics.blogspot.com/2014/05/sjp-vassar-posts-nazi-world-war-ii.html>

<sup>61</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/05/vassar-president-condemns-racist-anti-semitic-graphic-posted-by-students-for-justice-in-palestine/>

Catharine Hill, the President of Vassar College, condemned the “racist, anti-Semitic graphic posted to the Tumblr online site affiliated with the Vassar chapter of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP),” and asked SJP Vassar to stop representing itself as an official Vassar group.

Hill had given SJP Vassar a pass on its harassment of students and faculty in International Studies 110, noting at an open forum that, “I think I’ve been incredibly good about not commenting on that.”<sup>62</sup> Her failure to comment had led SJP Vassar to believe that it could get away with any level of harassment of Jewish faculty and students.

SJP Vassar initially responded by accusing Jewish critics of “earnestly looking for Neo-nazism in order to not deal with the crimes against humanity they support.” Finally it blamed an unnamed SJP member for the neo-Nazi content. It followed that up with a justifying quote from terrorist leader George Habash.<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>62</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/06/pro-israel-muslim-vassar-students-lonely-fight-to-defend-israel/>

<sup>63</sup> <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/2014/05/14/sjp-vassar-sorry-not-sorry/>

Habash's "Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine" (PFLP) had carried out numerous attacks targeting Jews.

"We believe that to kill a Jew far away from the battlefield has more effect than killing a hundred of them in battle," he had said. "And when we set fire to a store in London, those few flames are worth the burning down of two Kibbutzim (collective farms)."

Habash, along with other PFLP terrorists including Leila Khaled, were adopted as symbols by SJP chapters reflecting their core International Socialist Organization's affinity for anti-Semitic Marxist terrorists.

As late as 1998, Habash had insisted that conflict was the only answer. "There's no chance of justice for Palestinians through a peace process," he had said. "There's no hope for diplomacy to work with the Israelis."

SJP's attitude encompasses both of these quotes. It rejects peace and is determined to attack Israel by targeting Jews abroad.

The Habash quote chosen by SJP Vassar, “In today’s world no one is innocent, no one is neutral” takes on an ominous tone considering its grim context after the Lod airport massacre<sup>64</sup> during which 26 Puerto Ricans, a Canadian and eight Israelis were murdered.

Habash and SJP Vassar were defending a policy of indiscriminately targeting anyone who was not expressly aligned with them. They were contending that there was no room for neutrality or civility.

To Habash, that meant that Puerto Rican tourists in Israel were fair game. To SJP Vassar, it meant that progressive Jewish professors leading a trip to study conflict and cooperation over water resources in Israel, their students, and Jews in general were fair game.

It was this attitude that makes Habash a terrorist *supporter* and SJP Vassar a hate group.

Vassar College, like many other academic institutions, suffered from an inability to come to

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<sup>64</sup> [http://www.academia.edu/4264049/State\\_Sponsored\\_Terror\\_and\\_Market\\_state\\_terror\\_final](http://www.academia.edu/4264049/State_Sponsored_Terror_and_Market_state_terror_final)

grips with what Students for Justice in Palestine really was. College presidents and faculty have a clear image of what hate groups are. Faced with a hate group co-founded by diverse and well-educated students, they denied the experiences of Jewish students and faculty suffering from their bigotry.

A day after President Hill's condemnation of SJP Vassar, Vassar College once again showed that it was bending over backward to tolerate and accommodate attacks on Israel. Julian Hassan, a student from a Muslim family, had responded to the SJP SS poster by putting up a Wall of Truth to counter the Israel Apartheid Week walls.<sup>65</sup>

The Wall of Truth consisted of historical facts that would be very difficult to argue with. And so they weren't argued with.

Hassan was accused of escalating tensions by administrators and told to take the Wall of Truth down even though it was put up in the same area where SJP Vassar had put up its Apartheid Wall.<sup>66</sup>

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<sup>65</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/06/pro-israel-muslim-vassar-students-lonely-fight-to-defend-israel/>

<sup>66</sup> <http://www.truthrevolt.org/israel-revolt/four-weeks-and-one-lawyers-letter-later-vasser-finally-returns-pro-israel-wall-trut>

The Wall was defaced by students, taken down by Vassar<sup>67</sup> and the vandalism was defended by Vassar as “a form of dialogue on the Vassar campus.”

SJP Vassar continued to operate in a privileged space that allowed it to harass other students. Its actions had made the campus into a hostile environment for Jewish and Israeli students and faculty. Its ugliness even extended to a student from a Muslim family who had chosen to stand up for the truth.

Vassar’s statement on discrimination and harassment<sup>68</sup> states that it “will not tolerate harassment on the basis of race, color or national origin.” It defines a hostile environment as one created by harassment “sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent” that it limits the ability of the student to participate or benefit from college programs.

This harassment is sufficient “to alter the conditions of the environment and create an

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<sup>67</sup> <http://spme.org/boycotts-divestments-sanctions-bds/pro-israel-muslim-vassar-students-lonely-fight-to-defend-israel/18036>

<sup>68</sup> <http://coaa.vassar.edu/discrimination-and-harassment/prohibited.html>

abusive environment” as determined objectively and subjectively.

According to the *Student Handbook*, Vassar cultivates a campus atmosphere “in which all of its members may study, live, and work free from intolerance, discrimination, and harassment.”

“Discrimination and harassment undermine the educational mission of the institution, its integrity, and the intellectual, working, and living environment for members of our community,” it states.

The integrity of Vassar College was undermined by the actions of Students for Justice in Palestine. In a short time, SJP Vassar had managed to create a hostile environment through sustained harassment aimed at Jewish and Israeli students on campus.

It could not have done this without the complicity of Vassar College. What we can learn from the case of SJP Vassar is not just that it is a hate group, but also that its hatefulness has been tolerated and accepted by college administrators and faculty, making the group even more effective and dangerous.

## Case #2: Northeastern University

Hate groups don't originate in a vacuum. Students for Justice in Palestine would not exist if its co-founder Hatem Bazian's numerous anti-Semitic antics had not been tolerated by academia.

At Northeastern University, the problem could be summed up in the remarks of M. Shahid Alam, a professor of economics and the faculty adviser to Students for Justice in Palestine. "We should really laugh away accusation of anti-Semitism," he told students. "And there may come a time when you almost wear that label as a mark of distinction."<sup>69,70</sup>

A Jewish student at Alam's lecture said, "I had never in my life, ever, experienced anti-Semitism first hand until this past year... No one should have to experience hatred like this in their learning environment."<sup>71</sup>

But Jewish students went on experiencing it

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<sup>69</sup> [http://www.newenglishreview.org/blog\\_direct\\_link.cfm/blog\\_id/44226/](http://www.newenglishreview.org/blog_direct_link.cfm/blog_id/44226/)

<sup>70</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9mmOilcDA4>

<sup>71</sup> <http://www.algemeiner.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/ZOA-letter-to-Northeastern-Univ-President-Aoun-7-5-13.pdf>



as NU SJP followed Alam's lead. Its spokesman was fond of wearing T-shirts associated with anti-Semitic terrorist groups known to kill Jews. While a student in a Hitler T-shirt would have been universally condemned, the university administration remained silent when the NU SJP spokesman posed in a shirt featuring Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, who has called for "death to the Jews."<sup>72</sup>

Nasrallah's rhetoric does not differ from that of the Third Reich's Fuhrer. "What do the Jews want? They want security and money. Throughout history the Jews have been Allah's most cowardly and avaricious creatures. If you look all over the world, you will find no one more miserly or greedy than they are," he has said.<sup>73</sup>

And the parallels to the Third Reich are even more ominous.

"If they [the Jews] all gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide,"

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<sup>72</sup> <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2014/ilya-feoktistov/northeast-ern-u-suspends-students-for-justice-in-palestine/>

<sup>73</sup> <http://www.discoverthenetworks.org/individualProfile.asp?indid=1257>

he said on another occasion.<sup>74</sup>

Other gear worn by the NU SJP spokesman included a shirt from Nasrallah's Hezbollah group<sup>75</sup> which among its other terror acts had bombed a Jewish center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, killing 85 people and wounding 300. The dead included Sebastian Barreiro, a 5-year-old boy.<sup>76</sup> He also favored a headband associated with Islamic Jihad.<sup>77</sup>

Aside from celebrating terrorist groups which had made it their mission to kill as many Jews as possible, SJP chapters were consistent in identifying with only those terrorist groups which, like SJP itself, rejected any compromise and insisted on the destruction of the Jewish state.<sup>78</sup>

NU SJP protests featured calls for the

<sup>74</sup> <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/05/23/books/the-enemy-within.html>

<sup>75</sup> <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2014/ilya-feoktistov/northeastern-u-suspends-students-for-justice-in-palestine/>

<sup>76</sup> <http://www.iranrights.org/memorial/story/11798/sebastian-barreiro>

<sup>77</sup> <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2014/ilya-feoktistov/northeastern-u-suspends-students-for-justice-in-palestine/>

<sup>78</sup> [http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2003/February/03\\_crm\\_099.htm](http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2003/February/03_crm_099.htm)

destruction of Israel and endorsements of terrorism.<sup>79,80</sup> Slogans used included “Resistance is not terrorism,”<sup>81</sup> “Long live Intifada,”<sup>82</sup> – a terrorist campaign mainly against Israeli civilians - and “From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free,”<sup>83</sup> a chant that calls for the destruction of Israel.

The first two slogans were a defense of terrorism and the last a call for the destruction of Israel.

Last year, its Facebook page celebrated the release of Samer Issawi, a PFLP terrorist, calling him a political prisoner,<sup>84</sup> even though Issawi had carried out attacks on civilians, including the attempted murder of two Hebrew University

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<sup>79</sup> <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2014/ilya-feoktistov/northeastern-u-suspends-students-for-justice-in-palestine/>

<sup>80</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/03/northeastern-u-rally-cry-long-live-the-intifada/>

<sup>81</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/nusjp/posts/120779048080521>

<sup>82</sup> <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2012/richard-l-cravatts/northeastern-us-students-for-justice-in-palestine-cheerlead-amas-call-for-the-murder-of-jews/>

<sup>83</sup> <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2014/ilya-feoktistov/northeastern-u-suspends-students-for-justice-in-palestine/>

<sup>84</sup> [https://www.facebook.com/nusjp/posts/255765874581837?stream\\_ref=5](https://www.facebook.com/nusjp/posts/255765874581837?stream_ref=5)

students.<sup>85</sup> NU SJP reposted a message from the national SJP condemning the arrest of Rasmia Yousef,<sup>86</sup> a PFLP terrorist who had participated in bombing a supermarket before the Sabbath,<sup>87</sup> killing Leon Kaner, 21, and Edward Jaffe, 22, two other students who had been buying canned food for a botanical field trip.<sup>88</sup>

NU SJP's support for PFLP terrorists killing Jewish university students had menacing implications for Jewish and Israeli students on campus. These implications were just as obvious as a Neo-Nazi campus group defending the murderers of the three civil rights workers killed by the KKK five years before the pre-Sabbath supermarket bombing.

In 2011, Jewish students wrote a letter to President Aoun warning him that Northeastern was becoming a hostile environment for Jewish

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<sup>85</sup> [http://www.camera.org/index.asp?x\\_context=2&x\\_outlet=147&x\\_article=2609](http://www.camera.org/index.asp?x_context=2&x_outlet=147&x_article=2609)

<sup>86</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/nusjp/posts/237212826437142>

<sup>87</sup> <http://proisraelbaybloggers.blogspot.com/2013/11/convicted-terrorist-rasmia-yousef-odeh.html>

<sup>88</sup> <http://www.jta.org/1969/02/24/archive/jerusalem-supersol-re-opens-for-business-2-young-bombing-victims-are-buried>

students.<sup>89</sup>

“The Jewish community at Northeastern is beginning to feel unsafe and uncomfortable on campus and we feel it is the obligation of the University to prevent that,” they wrote.

“We see this as contributing towards a growing environment of hostility towards Jewish students that have [sic] become rampant in parts of the University of California system and other schools across the country, where Jewish enrollment has drastically decreased.”

That year, NU SJP had disrupted a Holocaust Awareness Week event and invited a speaker who had praised Holocaust denier David Irving, engaged in Holocaust denial and expressed solidarity with Hezbollah.<sup>90</sup> Norman Finkelstein – a Holocaust detractor and minimizer who has referred to Elie Wiesel as the “clown of the Holocaust circus,” and whose book, *The Holocaust Industry*, was

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<sup>89</sup> <http://www.algemeiner.com/2013/10/04/northeastern-university-calls-zoas-student-evidence-of-anti-semitism-in-classrooms-unsubstantiated-allegations/>

<sup>90</sup> <http://www.discoverthenetworks.org/individualProfile.asp?indid=2204>

described by the *New York Times* as “verg[ing] on paranoia and . . . serv[ing] anti-Semites around the world”<sup>91</sup> – claims to have received 75 speaking invitations from SJP chapters in 2012 alone,<sup>92</sup> and was far from the only such speaker that NU SJP invited.

In March 2014, NU SJP held a “Teach-In” featuring Chris Hedges who had accused Jews of exploiting the Holocaust, claiming that “many Jews have found in the Nazi Holocaust a useful instrument.” Hedges had accused the Holocaust Museum of covering up Jewish misdeeds during the Holocaust and contended that the real victims of the Holocaust, such as the Communists, had been obscured.<sup>93</sup>

Hedges accused Israel of “fascism” while claiming that its democracy, in which everyone can vote, “was always exclusively for Jews.” He defended Hamas and Hezbollah on the radio and accused Israel of carrying out another Holocaust in

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<sup>91</sup> <http://www.nytimes.com/books/00/08/06/reviews/000806.06bartovt.html>

<sup>92</sup> <http://hpmonitor.blogspot.com/2013/06/some-final-thoughts-on-norman.html>

<sup>93</sup> <http://newsbusters.org/node/8595>

Gaza by fighting against Hamas.<sup>94</sup>

Another panelist, Heike Schotten, responded to NU SJP's eventual suspension by accusing Jews who complain about anti-Semitism of being guilty of Nietzsche's "slave morality." "It is thus slave morality when the Zionists yell 'anti-Semitism!'" she claimed.<sup>95</sup>

This is the same accusation that the Nazis hurled at the Jews.

NU SJP, like many SJP chapters, had also invited Remi Kanazi<sup>96</sup> who had praised Hamas for fighting against injustice<sup>97</sup> and ranted about the "Jewish Lobby."<sup>98</sup> It hosted Mubarak Awad<sup>99</sup> who had stated that "The history of the Jewish religion has contributed to the Israeli-Palestinian

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<sup>94</sup> [http://www.truthdig.com/report/page2/20090112\\_the\\_language\\_of\\_death](http://www.truthdig.com/report/page2/20090112_the_language_of_death)

<sup>95</sup> <http://www.maannnews.net/eng/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=685102>

<sup>96</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/events/624288417597245/?ref=22>

<sup>97</sup> <http://www.politicalaffairs.net/the-only-democracy-in-the-middle-east/>

<sup>98</sup> <http://peacepalestine.blogspot.com/2006/03/remi-kanazi-us-media-bias-covering.html>

<sup>99</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/events/381402908602288/?ref=22>

problem, and Israel cannot continue to exist,” and “Palestinian armed struggle against the occupation is both morally and legally legitimate.”<sup>100</sup>

Rather than addressing their problem with anti-Semitism, NU SJP invited Lamis Deek to be part of a panel discussion titled “Mis-using Anti-Semitism.”<sup>101</sup> Deek has supported Hamas,<sup>102</sup> denounced “Jewish Supremacy,”<sup>103</sup> defended Muslims accused of hate crimes against Jews,<sup>104</sup> and called for the destruction of the Jewish State.

Like SJP Vassar, NU SJP dealt with its bigotry problem by attacking those Jews who pointed it out.

NU SJP’s bigotry was taking place in the context of an already hostile campus environment in which menorahs were vandalized for three

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<sup>100</sup> <http://www.discoverthenetworks.org/individualProfile.asp?indid=2090>

<sup>101</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/events/790988664247736/?ref=22>

<sup>102</sup> <http://www.investigativeproject.org/3489/cair-official-sees-nypd-cia-israeli-conspiracy>

<sup>103</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ax62cyhrEI>

<sup>104</sup> [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/the\\_jihad\\_lawyer.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/the_jihad_lawyer.html)



years in a row.<sup>105</sup> NU SJP's own acts of vandalism included confrontationally posting anti-Israel stickers around campus and disrupting Jewish events.<sup>106</sup>

Northeastern responded to NU SJP's disruption of a Holocaust Awareness Week event by putting it on administrative probation and asking it to produce a "statement of civility and decorum."<sup>107</sup>

Instead of reevaluating its behavior, NU SJP escalated it, refusing to issue a required civility statement and accusing Northeastern of giving in to pressure from Jewish donors, one of whose statues had been defaced by an SJP sticker with the support of NU SJP's president.<sup>108</sup> In February 2014, NU SJP planted fake eviction notices under the doors of student dorm rooms at night during midterms, claiming that their dorms and property would be demolished in three days. The notice

<sup>105</sup> <http://www.algemeiner.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/ZOA-letter-to-Northeastern-Univ-President-Aoun-7-5-13.pdf>

<sup>106</sup> <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2014/charles-jacobs-and-ilya-feoktistov/campus-free-speech-for-jew-haters-only/>

<sup>107</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ppCV6EHksK0&feature=youtu.be>

<sup>108</sup> <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2014/charles-jacobs-and-ilya-feoktistov/campus-free-speech-for-jew-haters-only/>

then went on to attack Israel.<sup>109</sup> It then mocked the concerns of Jewish students who felt threatened and intimidated.

The placement of the eviction notices violated several university rules. The rules require “display[ing] proper respect for the rights and privileges of other members of the University community.” They prohibit harassment based

on race, color, religion, national origin and other categories, and they prohibit bullying that creates a hostile, threatening or intimidating environment. They prohibit using residential public space without approval. And they prohibit solicitation within residence halls.

Robert Jose, the Associate Dean for Cultural and Residential Life, warned SJP, “We do not condone any behavior that causes members of our community to feel targeted and/or intimidated.”<sup>110</sup>

NU SJP had already been on administrative

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<sup>109</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/04/dorm-storming-at-nyu-targets-jewish-students/>

<sup>110</sup> [http://www.standwithus.com/campus/news/article.asp?id=3098#.U8gJ7\\_lr7J8](http://www.standwithus.com/campus/news/article.asp?id=3098#.U8gJ7_lr7J8)

probation and its “Dorm Storming” tactic was yet another violation of campus rules. NU SJP had failed to comply with Northeastern’s civility mandate and had been responsible for a series of unauthorized protests leading to a temporary suspension. If NU SJP had committed to complying with the rules, it would have been allowed to operate on a probationary basis in the fall before returning to full organizational status the following year.

Instead, NU SJP doubled down with a protest featuring chants calling for the destruction of Israel.<sup>111</sup>

After NU SJP was suspended, its spokesman, who had worn clothing glorifying anti-Semitic terrorist groups, warned that colleges that held SJP chapters accountable for breaking the rules or refused to meet their demands should expect to see “direct action” from those chapters.<sup>112</sup>

NU SJP used their suspension to launch a media and protest campaign, claiming that it was

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<sup>111</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/04/northeastern-univ-allows-probationary-reinstatement-of-anti-israel-group/>

<sup>112</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/03/anti-israel-campus-fail-ures-lead-to-threats-of-direct-action/>

the victim of persecution and censorship; but its exchanges with university officials showed that it had sought out a confrontation by refusing to follow simple procedures such as obtaining protest permits. It exaggerated its situation after the suspension to further attack Jewish students and alumni while portraying itself as their victim.

When SJP-affiliated students transform a university campus into a hostile environment by acting as if they are the victims of oppression and are entitled to lash out in any way they choose, their theater of hate has real consequences for the university and for its student community.

Northeastern University's code of student conduct states that students have the responsibility "to respect the differences of individuals and treat others in a civil and respectful fashion." It warns against harassment and "intimidation of an individual or group" on the basis of race, color, religion, religious creed and national origin.<sup>113</sup>

NU SJP set out to violate these codes and turned the disciplinary action against it into more

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<sup>113</sup> <http://www.northeastern.edu/osccr/code-of-student-conduct/>

fodder for its claims of Jewish persecution. It sought confrontation at every stage, acting like a classic hate group whose goal is not dialogue or compromise, but the maintaining of a state of perpetual conflict against its Jewish and Israeli targets and any authority figures who try to protect their rights.

### **Case #3: NYU**

“Dorm Storming” is not a tactic unique to any SJP chapter, but NU SJP’s approach was outdone in pure bigotry by NYU SJP’s eviction notices.

NYU SJP was accused of targeting Jewish students with fake eviction notices. The NYU SJP notices distributed several days before Holocaust Remembrance Day, however, accused Israel of destroying Arab homes for “Judaization,” a blatant lie. The notices also falsely claimed that “Palestinian homes are destroyed as part of the state of Israel’s ongoing attempts to ethnically cleanse the region of its Arab inhabitants and maintain an exclusively ‘Jewish’ character of the state.”

In 2010, NYU SJP commemorated the first

night of Chanukah with “Verses of Resistance” featuring the work of Tahani Salah,<sup>114</sup> whose most famous poem, “Hate,” explains Muslim hatred for Jews by declaring, “This hate keeps them alive.”

The eviction notice distributed by NYU SJP used the word “Jewish” rather than “Zionist” in its attack on Israel, emphasizing once again that the SJP attacks on Israel and its Jewish supporters were motivated by Israel’s Jewishness.

The two dorms targeted by NYU SJP were perceived as having a large Jewish student population. One of the dorms even had a Sabbath elevator.<sup>115</sup>

On the evening of Holocaust Remembrance Day, NYU SJP tweeted a call for the destruction of the Jewish state.<sup>116</sup>

While NYU SJP’s Twitter account was denying

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<sup>114</sup> <http://nyusjp.wordpress.com/2010/11/29/verses-of-resistance/>

<sup>115</sup> <http://blogs.timesofisrael.com/nyu-jewish-students-the-target-of-latest-sjp-propaganda-attacks/>

<sup>116</sup> <http://www.truthrevolt.org/news/nyu-sjp-denies-israels-legal-right-exist#.U1rqEKtb86w.twitter>

that it had attacked Jews in the leaflet,<sup>117</sup> a blatant lie, its blog ran a defense of the “Dorm Storming” by Kumars Salehi, an Iranian SJP member, who claimed that Israel privileges Jews and accused a critic of belonging to a “violent extremist Jewish organization.”<sup>118</sup>

In the previous month, Salehi had appeared on Iran’s Press TV, to denounce Israel. Iran’s Press TV features anti-Semitic conspiracy theories, Holocaust denial and guests like former KKK leader David Duke.<sup>119</sup> It was one of a number of Salehi appearances on the Iranian propaganda channel.

On his own blog, The Red Fury, Salehi ranted that “The politics of Zionism are the politics of Jewish supremacy.” Israel, he claimed in a post calling for its destruction, is “Government for and by Jews.”<sup>120</sup>

He also described Hamas as a resistance

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<sup>117</sup> Ibid.

<sup>118</sup> <http://nyusjp.wordpress.com/2014/04/25/eviction-action/>

<sup>119</sup> <http://blog.adl.org/tags/kumars-salehi>

<sup>120</sup> <http://theredfury.wordpress.com/2014/01/25/democratic-israel/>

group.<sup>121</sup> By the spring, he was chanting “HAMAS!!!! HAMAS!!!” on Twitter.

Like SJP Vassar and NU SJP, NYU SJP did not abruptly arrive at this point of extreme bigotry.

In March, it had hosted a panel discussion by Ali Abunimah and Max Blumenthal<sup>122</sup> who kicked things off by telling anyone who didn’t like what he had to say to go “to a Hillel house on campus, with 24-hour G4S security.”<sup>123</sup>

With those words, Blumenthal and his SJP sponsors were making it clear that they were targeting Jewish NYU students.

Blumenthal, whose attack on Israel had been cited by Frazier Glenn Cross,<sup>124</sup> the neo-Nazi Kansas City gunman who had targeted a Jewish Community Center, is considered beyond the pale,

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<sup>121</sup> <http://theredfury.wordpress.com/2013/11/16/iran-missed-opportunities/>

<sup>122</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/NYU.SJP/posts/10152039658179751>

<sup>123</sup> <http://www.nyunews.com/2014/03/26/kaplanlavine/>

<sup>124</sup> <http://pjmedia.com/ronradosh/2014/04/14/who-inspired-the-nazi-klan-leaders-actions-in-kansas-the-answer-here/>



even by most opponents of Israel. At one event he shocked the audience when he not only called for the destruction of Israel, but also for the ethnic cleansing of its Jewish population.<sup>125,126</sup>

Ali Abunimah had defended Hamas and Hezbollah as “nationalist movements facing foreign occupation” and called for the destruction of Israel.<sup>127</sup> Even critics of Israel considered him extreme. M.J. Rosenberg, who had been fired from Media Matters for accusing pro-Israel Jews of dual loyalty, had written that, “It is clear that he cannot stand Jews.”<sup>128</sup>

Both men were a common presence at SJP chapter events because of a shared ideology. SJP, Blumenthal and Abunimah all believe that Israel’s Jewish character meant that it had to be destroyed.

NYU SJP’s Facebook page reposted<sup>129</sup> a call

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<sup>125</sup> <http://forward.com/articles/186557/max-blumenthals-goliath-is-anti-israel-book-that-m/?p=all>

<sup>126</sup> <http://www.frontpagemag.com/2014/dgreenfield/anti-semitic-violence-neo-nazis-and-the-anti-israel-left/>

<sup>127</sup> <http://cifwatch.com/cif-contributors/ali-abunimah/>

<sup>128</sup> <http://www.israellycool.com/2013/10/13/mj-rosenberg-rips-ali-abunimah-for-antisemitism/>

<sup>129</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/NYU.SJP/posts/356700544385879>

by Abunimah to release Islamic Jihad terrorist Bilal Diab.<sup>130</sup> A May rally featured calls for the destruction of Israel and chants such as “Resistance is justified when a people are occupied,” and “Zionist state, tear it down.”<sup>131</sup>

NYU’s Student Conduct Policy calls for “respecting all community members,” and “supporting and honoring the diverse lifestyles and pursuits of individual members in the community.”<sup>132</sup> NYU SJP’s entire agenda rested on disrespecting students based on their national origin, ethnicity and religion.

And seeking out confrontations with them.

NYU SJP, its tactics, and its speakers, also violated NYU’s Code of Ethical Conduct which prohibits emotionally abusing or harassing students based on, among other things, race, religion and

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<sup>130</sup> <http://www.ajjac.org.au/news/article/striking-prisoners-are-no-gandhi-esque-resisters>

<sup>131</sup> <http://www.truthrevolt.org/news/nyu-sjp-hosts-anti-semitic-rally>

<sup>132</sup> <http://www.nyu.edu/life/living-at-nyu/on-campus-living/get-to-know-yourhome/judicial-information/judicial-handbook.html>

national origin.<sup>133</sup>

Students for Justice in Palestine had brought hate to campus. Calls for murder and genocide are primal forms of harassment and emotional abuse. NYU would never have tolerated racist conduct by a branch of the KKK on campus, knowing its effects on African-American students. NYU SJP showed that it was equally committed to spreading hate against Jews.

NYU claims that there is no room for hate on campus, but as long as SJP has a presence at NYU with university funding, then the hate will remain, creating a hostile environment for Jewish and Israeli students.

#### **Case #4: University of Michigan**

“Dirty Jew!” “Kike!”

Those slurs and others like them were part of the new reality for Jewish and Israeli students at the

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<sup>133</sup> <http://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/code-of-ethical-conduct.html>

University of Michigan's Ann Arbor campus.<sup>134</sup>

According to its own code of conduct, Students Allied for Freedom and Equality (SAFE) was to “only engage in peaceful and constructive actions.”<sup>135</sup>

The reality, however, was quite different.

SAFE is Students for Justice in Palestine's chapter at the University of Michigan.<sup>136,137</sup> SJP has been accused of acting as a front group for other organizations. Chapters with different names, such as SAFE or BAKA at Rutgers, and GUPS at San

Francisco State, took the ambiguity to another level by making it possible for chapters to avoid the bad reputation of SJP while carrying on its work.

SAFE's constitution makes no mention of the

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<sup>134</sup> <http://freebeacon.com/issues/pro-israel-students-called-kike-dirty-jew-at-university-of-michigan>

<sup>135</sup> <http://www.thetower.org/article/staring-down-the-devil-at-the-university-of-michigan/>

<sup>136</sup> <https://maizepages.umich.edu/organization/safeumich/about>

<sup>137</sup> <http://www.michigandaily.com/news/11-israeli-and-palestinian-groups-hold-events-diag16>

fact that it is an SJP chapter. While SAFE initially claimed that “SAFE’s domain is not limited to any single issue,” and that it sought “to advance the causes of freedom, justice, human rights and equality for all peoples,”<sup>138</sup> it was in fact a single issue anti-Israel group calling for the destruction of Israel in its fourth principle.<sup>139</sup>

This deceptiveness was to be a hallmark of SAFE/UM SJP. Other SJP chapters were upfront about their intentions. SAFE, however, pretended to be more moderate than it actually was.

A Jewish elected member of the University of Michigan’s Central Student Government (CSG) described encountering repeated “anti-Israel and anti-Semitic hate speech” during its sessions.<sup>140</sup> SAFE made the atmosphere worse by resorting to the typical SJP tactic of “Dorm Storming.” An eviction notice was placed under the doors of student dorms on the last day of classes, making it less likely that SAFE would be held accountable

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<sup>138</sup> Ibid

<sup>139</sup> [http://www.umich.edu/~umsafe/other/SAFE\\_Constitution.pdf](http://www.umich.edu/~umsafe/other/SAFE_Constitution.pdf)

<sup>140</sup> <http://www.thetower.org/article/staring-down-the-devil-at-the-university-of-michigan/>

for violating campus regulations.<sup>141</sup>

The eviction notices introduced SAFE's BDS campaign. That campaign would climax in anti-Semitic slurs and threats of violence against Jewish students.

While BDS resolutions had frequently passed at the Dearborn campus, BDS had already failed in Ann Arbor.<sup>142</sup> SAFE did not expect it to pass this time either, at least not through legitimate means. So instead supporters of its boycott resolution turned to uglier tactics.

SAFE began its presentation by inviting the enthusiastic proponent of the destruction of Israel, Max Blumenthal, to attack the Jewish speakers in purely racial terms without even hearing what they had to say. "I've heard there are three speakers here and I've heard that all three are Jewish Americans, which means they are all 100% more privileged

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<sup>141</sup> <http://www.algemeiner.com/2013/12/17/anti-israel-hate-speech-and-slander-at-the-university-of-michigan-%E2%80%8E%E2%80%8E%E2%80%8E/>

<sup>142</sup> <http://spme.org/boycotts-divestments-sanctions-bds/boycotts-divestments-and-sanctions-bds-news/umich-dearborn-student-government-demands-divestment-bill-passes-unanimously-regents-almost-certainly-wont-vote-to-divest/1896/>

than Palestinians,” he said.<sup>143</sup>

SAFE’s BDS advocacy piece in the *Michigan Daily* had already set the stage for this brand of race-baiting by accusing Jews of plotting to “purify the land of non-Jews.”<sup>144</sup> SAFE had racialized the conflict from the very beginning and its BDS push stirred up racial bigotry and hatred.

“This movement has created a hostile environment,” a Jewish student testifying against the resolution said.<sup>145</sup>

“BDS has silenced me. CSG – think long and hard about this – remember the way they’ve behaved on campus to intimidate and divide the community,” another said.<sup>146</sup>

“When attacks on my identity surfaced this year, both at members of my community and myself, I

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<sup>143</sup> <https://csg.umich.edu/files/files/Twentyfifth%20Meeting%20Minutes%203-25-14.pdf>

<sup>144</sup> <http://diagdissent.wordpress.com/2012/04/09/michigan-bds-safes-new-campus-divestment-initiative/>

<sup>145</sup> <https://csg.umich.edu/files/files/Twentyfifth%20Meeting%20Minutes%203-25-14.pdf>

<sup>146</sup> Ibid

knew I needed to say something. ‘Disgusting’, ‘filthy’, ‘shameful’, ‘dirty jew’, ‘kike,’” a Jewish member of the student government said.<sup>147</sup>

“Unfortunately, of all these disparaging insults, and many others, accompanied by threats of violence, are messages that I and other members of CSG have been receiving this past week.”<sup>148</sup>

“As a Jewish student on campus, it is deeply troubling that individuals have used threats and intimidation. As someone proud of his ideological beliefs and identity, it is terrifying to think that people can’t freely act or express themselves without having to contemplate ‘Will I be threatened? Intimidated? Face hate crimes?’”<sup>149</sup>

“When students are threatened and fearful to go to class, when they are intimidated, it is a loss to the student body and a black mark against those who would perpetrate such infringements of the civil liberties of their fellow students,” he added.

An African-American CSG representative

<sup>147</sup> Ibid

<sup>148</sup> Ibid

<sup>149</sup> Ibid



filed a police report over the harassment<sup>150</sup> and stated, “You can’t say that this is a non-violent protest— harassing e-mails and phone calls have kept me from going to class all week— I don’t feel this is a peaceful movement at all.”<sup>151,152</sup>

Anti-Semitic slurs and threats were part of the atmosphere as SAFE, after the BDS vote was indefinitely postponed, doubled down on its boycott demand with an “indefinite sit-in”<sup>153</sup> at the CSG chambers as part of its protracted struggle.

SAFE announced that the CSG chambers were being unilaterally renamed the “Edward Said Lounge.”<sup>154</sup> Said had been an opponent of the peace process and claimed that it was “demagoguery” to call Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorists because they only use violence against Jews, not “other

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<sup>150</sup> [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2014/03/university\\_of\\_michigan.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2014/03/university_of_michigan.html)

<sup>151</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhvE6tGScyg>

<sup>152</sup> <https://csg.umich.edu/files/files/Twentyfifth%20Meeting%20Minutes%203-25-14.pdf>

<sup>153</sup> <http://www.michigandaily.com/news/central-student-government-votes-not-pass-divestment-resolution>

<sup>154</sup> <http://www.scribd.com/doc/214903413/SAFE-Statement-on-AR-3-050>

Palestinians.”<sup>155</sup>

CSG president Michael Proppe described serious threats being sent to CSG representatives leaving some of them fearful of attending classes.

CSG vice president Dishell said many of the threats came from persons identifying themselves with SAFE.<sup>156</sup>

SAFE’s Divestment chair, Yazan Kherallah, posted a photo of himself with his face covered in a keffiyah jamming a knife into a pineapple with the words, “It’s on.”<sup>157</sup>

This ugly outcome could have been foreseen all along. In 2011, SAFE’s blog had run an article by Bayan Founas and Suha Najjar calling for a struggle “against Zionist colonization throughout the ages.”<sup>158</sup>

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<sup>155</sup> <http://www.meforum.org/342/edward-saids-anti-oslo-writings>

<sup>156</sup> <http://www.michigandaily.com/news/um-divest-sit-stirs-emotions-across-campus-and-could-impact-csg-elections?page=0,0>

<sup>157</sup> <http://freebeacon.com/issues/bds-leader-posts-overtly-threatening-photo-to-facebook/>

<sup>158</sup> <http://diagdissent.wordpress.com/2011/12/23/combating-zionist-colonization-through-the-ages/>

Such rhetoric is a coded call for the historical demonization of the Jews. The SAFE article claimed that Jews had “segregated themselves” under Muslim rule, when in fact they were segregated as a non-Muslim minority. The oppressed Jewish population was accused by Founas and Najjar of segregating themselves out of “a belief in Jewish superiority over non-Jews.”<sup>159</sup>

These accusations of Jewish supremacy were a common pattern among SJP members. And they made it clear that Israel was being attacked because of Jews, rather than Jews being attacked because of Israel.

SAFE’s blog meanwhile linked to “If Americans Knew”<sup>160</sup> which promoted the claim that there “was a factual basis for some of the medieval blood libels against the Jews.”<sup>161,162</sup>

This blatantly racist view of Jews was a

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<sup>159</sup> <http://diagdissent.wordpress.com/2011/12/23/combating-zionist-colonization-through-the-ages/>

<sup>160</sup> <http://umsafe.blogspot.com/>

<sup>161</sup> [http://www.ifamericansknew.org/cur\\_sit/sweden.html](http://www.ifamericansknew.org/cur_sit/sweden.html)

<sup>162</sup> <http://adamholland.blogspot.com/2009/09/blood-libel-promoted-by-counterpunch.html>

disturbing window into the worldview of SAFE's activists.

In its defense, SAFE had claimed that "Nowhere within our mission statement will you find that we are anti-Semitic or anti-Jewish." SAFE did not announce its bigotry in its mission statement. Instead it displayed it, by its actions and its rhetoric.

The University of Michigan's Standard Practice Guide states that, "Discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin" will not be tolerated at the University of Michigan.<sup>163</sup> But UM has continued to tolerate SAFE and the bigotry of this hate group that has made campus life for students, both Jewish and non-Jewish, feel threatening and unsafe.

SAFE and its speakers employed racialized language to attack Jews on and off campus. Its tactics sowed division in the UM community. Its hatred made the Ann Arbor campus into an unsafe place for Jewish and non-Jewish students.

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<sup>163</sup> <http://spg.umich.edu/policy/201.89-1>

## Case #5: Rutgers

“Let me start by saying we are deeply sorry. It was anti-Semitic.”

That was how the letter of apology from the Board of Trustees of the *Daily Targum*, the student newspaper, to Rutgers Hillel began.<sup>164</sup> The board was apologizing for an editorial which included the claim that “pro-Israel parties are good at getting money into funds” and when mentioning Hillel asked, “As a non-Jewish person, does the Jewish nature make you feel welcome?”<sup>165</sup>

Amani Al-Khatahtbeh, the *Daily Targum*'s opinion editor, would later admit in an aggrieved Huffington Post piece blaming Jewish pressure for her departure, that the editorial had “anti-Semitic undertones.”<sup>166</sup>

Al-Khatahtbeh was a member of BAKA

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<sup>164</sup> <http://jakebinstein.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/2-6-2014-Targum-Board-of-Trustees-Apology-and-Hillel-Response.pdf>

<sup>165</sup> <http://jakebinstein.com/activism/daily-targum-bias/can-hillels-funding-be-put-to-better-use-colleen-jolly>

<sup>166</sup> [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/amani-alkhatahtbeh/the-fight-for-freedom-of-speech\\_b\\_4761906.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/amani-alkhatahtbeh/the-fight-for-freedom-of-speech_b_4761906.html)

which officially identifies itself as “a proud affiliate of Students for Justice in Palestine.”<sup>167</sup> During an earlier BAKA controversy, her letter appeared in the *Daily Targum* complaining that the word “anti-Semitism” was being thrown around too casually and suggesting that American Jews aren’t Semites, but that Palestinians are.<sup>168</sup>

BAKA had run into controversy in 2010 when it attempted to illegally fundraise for the Gaza flotilla<sup>169</sup> in support of Hamas and when it included Hamas terrorists in a campus “vigil” for the lives lost in Gaza.<sup>170</sup>

That same year, BAKA held a “Never Again For Anyone” event that exploited the Holocaust to attack Israel. Not only was the purpose of the event, which was to compare the Jewish State to Nazi Germany, typical of the “New Anti-Semitism,” as defined by the EU and the US State Department, but it also proved to be reflective of a more traditional

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<sup>167</sup> <http://baka-rutgers.tumblr.com/post/3128014804/welcome-to-baka-students-united-for-middle-eastern>

<sup>168</sup> [http://issuu.com/targum\\_editor/docs/dt\\_2011-01-28/9](http://issuu.com/targum_editor/docs/dt_2011-01-28/9)

<sup>169</sup> [http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/11/jewish\\_groups\\_raise\\_concern\\_ov.html](http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/11/jewish_groups_raise_concern_ov.html)

<sup>170</sup> [http://issuu.com/targum\\_editor/docs/dt\\_2011-01-28/9](http://issuu.com/targum_editor/docs/dt_2011-01-28/9)

variety of bigotry.

The event was advertised as “free and open to the public,” but when Jewish students and community members, including Holocaust survivors, showed up, BAKA members charged them a special fee.<sup>171,172</sup>

A student said that arrivals that “looked Jewish” based on their “head covering” were refused open admission, while students wearing Hijabs were allowed in free of charge. BAKA members questioned Jewish students and told them, “You don’t belong here.”<sup>173</sup>

Meanwhile inside, Osama Abu-Irshaid, a member of American Muslims for Palestine, ranted, “You have the offspring of the victims of the Holocaust justifying a Holocaust committed against another people!”<sup>174</sup>

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<sup>171</sup> <http://www.moremonmouthmusings.net/2011/01/30/israel-supporters-turned-away-from-baka-event-at-rutgers/>

<sup>172</sup> <http://jakebinstein.com/activism/baka-lies>

<sup>173</sup> <http://brandeiscenter.com/images/uploads/cases/zoabrief.pdf>

<sup>174</sup> [http://www.thejewishweek.com/editorial\\_opinion/opinion/battle\\_rutgers\\_when\\_never\\_again\\_misused](http://www.thejewishweek.com/editorial_opinion/opinion/battle_rutgers_when_never_again_misused)

Osama had defended Hamas attacks as “legitimate resistance”<sup>175</sup> and had become notorious for anti-Semitic remarks such as, “Theft, detention, denial of rights; this is all done in the name of the Jewish religion.”<sup>176</sup>

Outside, things got uglier. A Jewish student had his camera grabbed.<sup>177</sup> Inside, a co-sponsor of the event admitted targeting Jewish and Israeli students. “When we saw there were Zionists outside, we decided to change the [admission policy],” she told the audience.<sup>178</sup> A student volunteer stated that she was told, “Let in the people who look like you, don’t let in the people who look like them.”<sup>179</sup>

BAKA’s blatant discrimination was in violation of Rutgers’ policy banning discrimination based on “race, religion, color, national origin.”<sup>180</sup> It was also typical of the behavior to be expected of a hate group.

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<sup>175</sup> <http://www.clarionproject.org/analysis/state-dept-officials-meet-brotherhood-linked-activist>

<sup>176</sup> [http://archive.adl.org/main\\_anti\\_israel/muslim\\_american\\_society250d.html#.U9Au0\\_lr7J8](http://archive.adl.org/main_anti_israel/muslim_american_society250d.html#.U9Au0_lr7J8)

<sup>177</sup> <http://jakebinstein.com/activism/baka-lies>

<sup>178</sup> <http://issuu.com/jewishvoice/docs/201107>

<sup>179</sup> <http://brandeiscenter.com/images/uploads/cases/zoabrief.pdf>

<sup>180</sup> <http://compliance.rutgers.edu/nonpol.shtml>



In the aftermath of the racist BAKA event, a Rutgers Hillel letter to the *Daily Targum* spoke of “Jewish students who have been threatened with violence, made to feel unsafe in their residence halls

and sought formal counseling because of physical threats as well as emotional and verbal attacks on them. This includes individuals who BAKA has publically targeted.”<sup>181</sup>

A Jewish student who had accused BAKA of “segregating Jewish and Israel supporters” while “racially” preferencing their own supporters,<sup>182 183</sup> was violently threatened on Facebook: “Id be happy to see him beat with a crowbar. Violence doesn’t solve problems but it shuts up people who shouldnt speak.”<sup>184 185</sup>

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<sup>181</sup> [http://issuu.com/targum\\_editor/docs/dt\\_2011-02-08](http://issuu.com/targum_editor/docs/dt_2011-02-08)

<sup>182</sup> <http://www.newsrealblog.com/2011/01/30/israel-supporters-denied-entrance-to-anti-zionist-event-at-rutgers/>

<sup>183</sup> [http://www.dailytargum.com/opinion/columnists/baka-must-end-hateful-tactics/article\\_2e48d1bc-ebce-57a9-ab72-0-d55b075a484.html](http://www.dailytargum.com/opinion/columnists/baka-must-end-hateful-tactics/article_2e48d1bc-ebce-57a9-ab72-0-d55b075a484.html)

<sup>184</sup> <http://jakebinstein.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/Rutgers-Student-Threatened-After-He-Criticized-Anti-Zionist-Event-DearElectedLeader.pdf>

<sup>185</sup> <http://www.scribd.com/doc/74552149/Letter-to-Rutgers-President-McCormick-4-6-11-1>

Despite these threats, Rutgers took no action, in violation of its own code of conduct.<sup>186</sup>

A Jewish student described being targeted by BAKA to such a degree that “she couldn’t leave her house and was so riddled with anxiety that she couldn’t sleep.”<sup>187</sup>

Rutgers ignored bias complaints filed by Jewish students<sup>188</sup> and the acquiescence of the university ensured that the bigotry and harassment continued.

When Rutgers SJP engaged in “Dorm Storming” in 2013, slipping eviction notices under dorm room doors in violation of campus rules<sup>189,190</sup> which barred “a communication” that is “likely to cause annoyance or alarm,”<sup>191</sup> the university again

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<sup>186</sup> Ibid

<sup>187</sup> <http://issuu.com/jewishvoice/docs/201107>

<sup>188</sup> <http://brandeiscenter.com/images/uploads/cases/zoabrief.pdf>

<sup>189</sup> <http://housing.rutgers.edu/ie/files/undergradguide.pdf>

<sup>190</sup> <http://ruoncampus.rutgers.edu/policies/residence-hall-policies/solicitation>

<sup>191</sup> <http://ruoncampus.rutgers.edu/policies/residence-hall-policies/harassment-and-assault-policy>

failed to take action.<sup>192</sup>

“No student felt safe this morning when they awoke and read the ‘eviction’ notice placed under their doors,” Rabbi Akiva Dovid Weiss, the Rutgers Hillel Rabbi, said, “and no student in this university ever will feel safe until they know that university groups that engage in this kind of behavior will be unconditionally disbanded, since actions that compromise the emotional safety of our students within the privacy of their own residences cannot be tolerated and have no place on our campus.”

“Making students feel unsafe in their homes is apparently part of the SJP strategy,” he said.<sup>193</sup>

Furthermore, there were allegations that Jewish students had been targeted, with a disproportionate number of notices going to Jewish students and a Jewish student allegedly being the only one on the floor to receive an eviction notice.<sup>194</sup>

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<sup>192</sup> <http://jakebinstein.com/activism/daily-targum-bias>

<sup>193</sup> <http://spme.org/campus-news-climate/alarmed-anti-israel-campaign-on-rutgers-campus/15912/>

<sup>194</sup> [http://njewishnews.com/article/18677/rutgers-hillel-seeks-penalties-for-palestinian-protest#.U9BFpPlr7J\\_](http://njewishnews.com/article/18677/rutgers-hillel-seeks-penalties-for-palestinian-protest#.U9BFpPlr7J_)

At Rutgers, the singling out and marginalizing of Jewish students took on an explicit physical form. The actions of BAKA and the apathy of Rutgers officials had made the symbolic apartheid walls put up on campuses by SJP affiliates, including at Rutgers, into disturbingly concrete realities.

BAKA segregated and silenced Jewish students. It hijacked and exploited their history and then it singled them out. But this process of campus Apartheidization was then taken to a new level at UCLA.

### **Case #6: UCLA**

SJP chapters denounce Israel as an apartheid state, but their own goal is the segregation of Jewish and Israeli students who refuse to denounce their own identity and culture.

At UCLA, as at Rutgers, Students for Justice in Palestine demonstrated what the Apartheid campus it intended for Jewish students would look like.

Hatem Bazian, SJP's co-founder, began his bigoted campaign back at San Francisco State University when he targeted Jewish students

barring them from student government based on their views on Israel.<sup>195</sup> That old tactic was dug up and brought back to life by a chapter of the group he co-founded.

SJP chapters had become notorious for being sore losers when losing a divestment vote. The ugliness at the University of Michigan had resulted from just such a loss when, as at UM, SJP UCLA targeted members of the student government in a blatant attempt at intimidation.<sup>196 197</sup>

Former USAC General Representative Sunny Singh and USAC Financial Supports Commissioner Lauren Rogers were hauled in front of the Undergraduate Students Association Council Judicial Board on charges that they had gone on trips to Israel funded in part by the American Jewish

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<sup>195</sup> <http://www.fightthatred.com/profiles-in-hate/academics/916-hatem-bazian-co-founder-of-the-violently-anti-semiticanti-israel-group-called-students-for-justice-in-palestine-sjp-at-the-university-of-california-berkeley-in-2001>

<sup>196</sup> <http://www.jta.org/2014/05/20/news-opinion/opinion/op-ed-anti-israel-campaign-at-ucla-echoes-of-mccarthyism>

<sup>197</sup> [http://www.jewishjournal.com/cover\\_story/article/battle-ground-california-how-ucla-became-the-epicenter-of-the-campus-battle](http://www.jewishjournal.com/cover_story/article/battle-ground-california-how-ucla-became-the-epicenter-of-the-campus-battle)

Committee and the Anti-Defamation League.<sup>198</sup> Neither organization is Israeli; both are mainstream Jewish groups.

Candidates for student government were told to sign a pledge agreeing not to take trips to Israel with the Jewish organizations.<sup>199</sup> No similar pledge was demanded for the organizations of any other faith.

The UCLA divestment resolution proceedings had already left Jewish and Israeli students feeling battered.

“I watched with a sense of helplessness as blocks of students went up to the microphone to gush hate,” a Jewish UCLA student wrote, describing her experience.<sup>200</sup>

“As a result of divestment, not only my mental stability but also my academics have

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<sup>198</sup> <http://dailybruin.com/2014/05/16/judicial-board-hears-arguments-on-potential-usac-conflict/>

<sup>199</sup> <http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2014/05/14/ucla-responds-to-shocking-anti-israel-pledge-for-student-govt-candidates/>

<sup>200</sup> <http://www.thetower.org/article/why-are-student-leaders-and-jewish-kids-frightened-at-ucla/>

suffered. These attacks on my identity and rights to self-determination have not only affected me emotionally, but have had devastating effects on my academics and have hindered my purpose on this campus—to be a student.”

“It is ridiculous to me that at such a world-renowned university, our education is being put on hold because my identity is being put on trial,” another student, who had taken part in the debate, said.<sup>201</sup>

Despite that, SJP UCLA continued pressing forward with its hateful agenda.

Singh and Rogers had been the appetizers. The next target was Avinoam Baral, a Jewish-Israeli candidate. Baral had refused to sign the trip pledge and all the stops were pulled out to take him down.

Baral was accused of Islamophobia using fake Facebook screenshots which had him saying, “I

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<sup>201</sup> Ibid.

hate Muslims.”<sup>202,203</sup> Social media attacks on Baral were racially tinged with claims such as “I wouldn’t believe it was real if all of you Jews DIDN’T constantly throw your culture in our faces.”<sup>204</sup>

Having lost the vote, SJP did its best to rig the system to exclude Jewish and Israeli students from student government. This ghettoization of Jews on campus had begun with Hatem Bazian and was now moving forward with SJP UCLA.

“I am troubled that the pledge sought to delegitimize educational trips offered by some organizations but not others. I am troubled that the pledge can reasonably be seen as trying to eliminate selected viewpoints from the discussion,” Chancellor Gene Block warned.<sup>205</sup>

“The principles of civility, respect, and inclusion ... should also govern our campuses,”

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<sup>202</sup> <http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/05/ucla-testing-ground-for-next-generation-of-anti-israel-campus-tactics/>

<sup>203</sup> <http://dailybruin.com/2014/05/06/majority-of-usac-candidates-sign-joint-ethics-statement/>

<sup>204</sup> [http://www.reddit.com/r/ucla/comments/24xmgd/usac\\_electionsand\\_avi/](http://www.reddit.com/r/ucla/comments/24xmgd/usac_electionsand_avi/)

<sup>205</sup> <http://www.latimes.com/local/education/la-me-ucla-pledge-20140520-story.html#page=1>



UC President Janet Napolitano said. “The actions of these students at UCLA violate these principles.”<sup>206</sup>

“SJP should be held responsible for the cyberbullying toward both the Jewish community and council members that voted against the [BDS] resolution,” a Jewish student wrote. “These tactics embraced by SJP members are racist and dehumanizing.”<sup>207</sup>

“Rather than dealing with their frustrations as a result of the failure of the [BDS] resolution, members of SJP continue to target their anger at the Jewish community.”<sup>208</sup>

SJP UCLA’s efforts to bar Jewish and Israeli students from student government were in clear violation of the university’s student conduct policies. These called for enhanced sanctions for harassment based on “race, color, national or

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<sup>206</sup> Ibid.

<sup>207</sup> <http://dailybruin.com/2014/03/18/submission-hate-speech-after-divestment-resolution-only-further-divide/>

<sup>208</sup> <http://dailybruin.com/2014/03/18/submission-hate-speech-after-divestment-resolution-only-further-divide/>

ethnic origin” that “substantially impair a person’s access to University programs or activities so that the person is effectively denied equal access to the University’s resources and opportunities.”<sup>209</sup>

That was exactly what SJP UCLA was working to accomplish.

SJP UCLA continued to wage its war on Jewish and Israeli students. Its next targets were student regent Avi Oved and Hillel. Avi Oved’s email account was hacked and SJP used his stolen emails to try to disqualify Oved for a student seat on the California board of regents.<sup>210,211</sup> SJP’s effort failed.<sup>212</sup>

SJP chapters have always sought to marginalize Jewish and Israeli students on campus with their outbursts of hate, but SJP UCLA’s obsessive focus on keeping Jewish and Israeli student representatives out of student government was a

<sup>209</sup> <http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/archive/catalog/2012-13/catalog/catalog12-13-824a.htm>

<sup>210</sup> <http://www.dailycal.org/2014/07/03/ucsa-board-votes-request-delay-student-regent-designate-nominee-confirmation/>

<sup>211</sup> <http://www.dailycal.org/2014/07/03/ucsa-board-votes-request-delay-student-regent-designate-nominee-confirmation/>

<sup>212</sup> <http://www.dailycal.org/2014/07/16/uc-board-regents-confirm-avi-oved-student-regent-designate/>

disturbing and aggressive campaign to isolate and intimidate pro-Israel students on campus.

SJP UCLA claimed that despite its targeting of Jewish and Israeli students, it was not anti-Semitic. But its record says otherwise.

In February 2011, SJP UCLA's Palestine Awareness Week featured three speakers: Alison Weir, Hatem Bazian and Amir Abdel Malik.<sup>213</sup> Weir has used medieval Jewish blood libels as a basis for her attacks on Israel.<sup>214</sup> Hatem Bazian has a long track record of anti-Semitism and SJP UCLA was employing his tactics in its war on Jewish students.

Rabbi Doug Kahn of the San Francisco Jewish Community Relations Council has said of him, "Hatem Bazian was more responsible than any other student on campus for trying to make life miserable for Jewish students."<sup>215</sup>

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<sup>213</sup> <http://www.sjpb Bruins.com/2010-2011.html>

<sup>214</sup> <http://adamholland.blogspot.com/2009/09/blood-libel-promoted-by-counterpunch.html>

<sup>215</sup> Jonathan Mahler, "Howard's End: Why a Leading Jewish Studies Scholar Gave Up His Academic Career," *Lingua Franca*, March 1997

And then there was Amir Abdel Malik Ali.

The ADL describes Malik Ali as a member of an anti-Semitic movement.<sup>216</sup> The Southern Poverty Law Center calls him “a charismatic imam who promotes anti-Semitism, violence and conspiracy theories.”<sup>217</sup>

There’s no ambiguity when it comes to Malik Ali’s view of Jews.

Amir Abdel Malik Ali declared that he supports Hamas, called Jews the new Nazis and expressed hope that there would be a backlash against the Jews for the Iraq War.<sup>218</sup> But the moment that summed up what Malik Ali, Bazian and the SJP had accomplished may have come on a different California campus in 2009.

Speaking to San Francisco State University students, Malik Ali recalled the campaign against Jews waged by him and the SJP co-founder.

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<sup>216</sup> [http://archive.adl.org/main\\_anti\\_israel/sabiqun\\_anti-semitism250d.html#.U89dB\\_Ir7J9](http://archive.adl.org/main_anti_israel/sabiqun_anti-semitism250d.html#.U89dB_Ir7J9)

<sup>217</sup> <http://www.splcenter.org/get-informed/intelligence-report/browse-all-issues/2011/fall/ten-years-after/grown-at-home>

<sup>218</sup> <http://www.discoverthenetworks.org/individualProfile.asp?indid=2102>

“The Zionists cannot come out on this campus and say, ‘We’re Zionists!’ They can’t do it! It’s a Zionist-free campus!” he said. “I was the first Muslim student body president...and this troublemaker to my left [fellow panelist Hatem Bazian] was the third. And we understood: This is San Francisco State!”

“Bring ‘em out into the open, because they’re like a night flower. There are certain flowers that blossom at night, but when the sun comes out they go back in -- that’s the Zionist Jew. That’s the Zionist Jew! At the nighttime they come out, but once the sunshine comes out, once the light is put on them, they scatter.”<sup>219</sup>

This was SJP UCLA’s speaker for Palestine Awareness Week and this was SJP UCLA’s agenda. Under the influence of bigots like Malik Ali and Bazian, SJP UCLA was creating an apartheid campus for Jews.

SJP UCLA’s war on Jewish and Israeli students was an attempt to make Bazian and Malik’s vision of an ethnically cleansed campus come true.

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<sup>219</sup> <http://www.amchainitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Chapter-18-manuscript.pdf>

## **A Way Forward**

These six SJP chapters are not unique. They are only a snapshot of the larger experience of harassment and marginalization that Jewish and Israeli students are experiencing on campuses where SJP has established its presence.

Students for Justice in Palestine claims that it is against Israel, rather than against Jews, and yet it attacks Jews based on ethnicity, religion and national origin.

As we have seen at Vassar, it does not take very long for an SJP chapter to begin turning any campus into a hostile environment for Jews and their supporters. As we have seen at Northeastern, SJP chapters deliberately seek out conflict. Their blatant anti-Semitism is not an accident, but a tactic that enables its members to move on to the next stage: SJP uses any movement by university administrators to hold SJP accountable as a basis for accusing Jews of a plot to silence this hate group.

At NYU and the University of Michigan, we

see how the administration's silence and inaction in response to SJP's bigotry leads to an increasingly hostile environment for Jewish students as SJP members escalate their harassment. At UCLA, we see the results of that harassment as SJP works to deny representation and a voice in the student government to Jewish and Israeli students.

SJP chapters have made it clear that they will not play by the rules. Their strategy is based on conflict and divisiveness. Sanctioning or suspending them only hands them another propaganda opportunity. They twist the truth and portray themselves as victims, rather than the perpetrators of hatred on campus. Ignoring their bigotry, however, makes the campus into a dangerous environment for Jewish students.

There is only one solution and that is for universities to realize that a hate group has no place on campus. SJP supporters have the right to free speech. They do not have the right to promote bigotry, incite hatred on campus, and create a hostile learning environment, all with university funding.

No university would remain passive and silent if a KKK chapter promoted hatred of African Americans on campus. As we see in the recent events on these six campuses, SJP is to Jewish and Israeli students what the KKK is to African-American students.

African-American Zionist activist Chloé Simone Valdary wrote that the “Harassment of Jewish students on campus is a type of soft segregation. It is a segregation that comes in drip by drip.”

The Jewish student, she wrote, is “systematically stripped of his self-worth not by ignorant rednecks but by those who profess to be learned. Thus this is not only a soft segregation but also a sophisticated one; its proponents assert that in the very name of freedom and equity, an entire people should be denied the dignity of their existence.”<sup>220</sup>

Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law President Ken Marcus has noted that by not protecting its students from anti-Semitic harassment and threats of violence, universities are exposing

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<sup>220</sup> <http://chloesimonevaldary.com/totd-subversiveness-soft-segregation/>



themselves to civil rights violations.

Every university with an SJP chapter must decide whether to confront SJP's bigotry or abandon its Jewish students and faculty to a hostile campus environment in which SJP bigots use intimidation and harassment to determine which students will be allowed a place and a voice on campus.

Caroline Glick has noted "Anti-Semitism is predicated and can only survive and grow in an atmosphere in which reason is rejected. Brownshirt tactics are designed to replace reasoned discussion with intimidation and violence. And when violence and unreasoning hatred reign, there is no learning. Hence the threat to the entire university system."<sup>221</sup> Everyone interested in the future of our campuses and, indeed, the future of our democracy should heed these words.

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<sup>221</sup> <http://carolineglick.com/campus-brownshirts-on-the-march>

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