CAMERA: Pro-Hamas Sites and Curriculum Materials and Resources

Responses from Organizations to the depraved savage attack against innocent Israeli civilians

In response to the October 7th attack on Israel, organizations explicitly pushing an anti-Israel agenda or advocating "social justice" and "decolonization" are actively promoting their educational materials in K-12 schools. Many of these organizations have provided politicized resources to schools for years and have well-established links to many school systems.

The following resources have been recommended by school districts and state departments of education to help "teach" about the conflict between Israel and Hamas. These resources present biased, inaccurate information delegitimizing Israel's right to exist. Information about each organization, links to their anti-Israel lesson plans, resources, and recommended book lists are included in the chart below. Also included are social media posts by these organizations since the October 7th attack showing their support for Hamas and the destruction of Israel.

Many schools use the terms "decolonization," "oppression," "liberation," "solidarity," to describe historical and current social problems in order to sway teachers and students to adopt their revolutionary political ideology. Hamas and their sympathizers, such as Students for Justice in Palestine, also employ this inappropriate language, referring to Israel as a "settler colonial state."

CAMERA will continue to add to this document. Please send us any concerning materials you may encounter.

If you have questions, please contact schools@camera.org

Resource (MECA). **Books**

Media posts after October 7 2023 events against Israel

Problematic focus, materials and examples

Teach Palestine

Offers curriculum, books, articles and resources vilifying the State of Israel.

Teach Palestine is an educational project of the Middle East Children's Alliance



Resources portray Palestinians as victims without agency and claims Israel is a settler colonist state.

Recommended Books for Students on Palestine*

Recommended Books for Educators on Palestine

Recommended Lesson Plans for English Classes

Resources Recommended by Samia Shoman, consultant for Liberated Ethnic Studies and and co-coordinator of TeachPalestine Project with Jody Sokolower

*CAMERA has reviewed some of these problematic books.

Haymarket

Radical. independent, nonprofit book publisher based in Chicago "aimed at fostering struggle, solidarity, and debate."



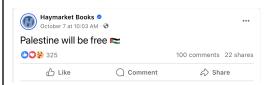
Abolition and the Liberation of **Palestine**



Organizes webinars with presenters who vilify Israel.

Free Palestine Reading List

On Antisemitism: Solidarity and the Struggle for Justice by Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP). JVP is an organization that promotes slanderous propaganda and actions against Israel. The book argues that defining anti-Zionism as antisemitism "can suppress the global progressive fight for justice."



Rethinking Schools

Book and magazine publisher and advocacy organization dedicated to social justice teaching and education activism. Promotes equity and racial justice in the classroom.



Rethinking Schools @RethinkSchools - Oct 12

Retninking Schools are Meretninkschools - Oct 12
We at Rethinking Schools are heartbroken over the violence and atrocities in Israel and Gaza. One cannot understand this tragedy without acknowledging its history. As educators, our role is to help students grasp and analyze this history. Part drove.

Calls itself the "country's leading grassroots magazine for social and racial justice in education." Their magazine, books, resources, and projects promote equity and racial justice in the classroom.

Rethinking Schools launched the Zinn Education Project in collaboration with Teaching for Change.

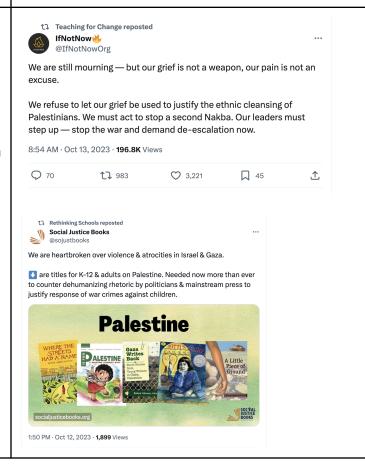
Rethinking Schools Palestine Resources

Author Jody Sokolower, co-founder of Coalition of Liberated Ethnic studies, promotes vilification of Israel in K-12 classrooms in an interview with Palestinian Educator Ziad Abbas.

Rethinking Schools "The Books I Never Had as a Child"

Teaching for Change

Publications and promoting activism in schools.
Collaborated with Rethinking Schools to produce the Zinn Education Project.



Produces "anti-racist, social justice resources" including reading lists, virtual workshops, and lessons to "rethink the world" so students can "see themselves as agents of change."

Created the <u>Challenge Islamophobia Project</u> which includes a lengthy list of <u>organizations</u> it claims are Islamophobic including CAMERA, Middle East Media Research Institute, ADL, StopAntisemitism, and the American Islamic Leadership. The <u>Islamophobia is Racism Syllabus</u> includes a section on "<u>How Right Wing Zionism Contributes to Anti-Muslim Racism</u>."

Zinn Education Project

Curriculum resources and activist organization based on the Marxist ideology from Howard Zinn's book, A People's History of the United States. Rethinking schools and Teaching for Change are co-coordinator organizations for the Zinn Education Project



Offers free lessons, articles, professional development teacher workshops based on social justice ideology.

Social Justice Books

Project of Teaching for Change. Provides tools for parents and teachers to change the world through social justice.



Recommended books on Palestine*

Social Justice Project also links to FAIR's article "Palestinian Erasure Starts in Preschool with Sesame Street's Endorsement"

* CAMERA has <u>reviewed</u> some of these problematic books.

Teaching for Tolerance/ Learning for Justice

Publications and resources focused on activism and social justice. Promotes a focus on racial justice and anti-racist education

Learning for Justice
@learnforjustice

As images of war flood the internet, young people need support to grapple with emotions and understand events. The terrorist attack by Hamas against Israel has far-reaching effects. This LFJ page offers resources for educators, parents and caregivers.

11:00 AM · Oct 14, 2023 · 1,658 Views

1 Repost 2 Likes

The <u>Learning for Justice Social Media Post</u> connects to a page of resources that includes multiple links to the San Diego County Office of Education resources page which is discussed below.

Teach Mideast

An educational project of the Middle East Policy Forum.



The <u>site</u> recommends many problematic and biased resources including articles by Al-Jazeera and Jewish Voice for Peace.

The "histories" provided include the Israelites in the history of "Palestine," section, but not in the section for the history of Israel. Palestinian action is written as a response to Israeli provocation and the failure of peace deals that are mentioned are blamed solely on Israel.

San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE)

The San Diego County Office of Education is a hub for ethnic studies curriculum resources.

Many districts outside of California access the website for resources for parents and teachers. SDCOE writes, referring to the Oct 7 massacre, "The terror attack perpetrated by Hamas against Israel and resulting declaration of war by Israel against Hamas in the Gaza Strip has led to numerous casualties and injuries on both sides."

Includes resources from Rethinking Schools and Learning for Justice, both biased problematic organizations described above.

Many of the links provided include biased anti-Israel materials or articles highlighting anti-Israel activists. For example, in the <u>equity</u> section the following is included: "How Teachers can Support Arab-American Students" from Cult of Pedagogy, which features an interview with Sawsan Jaber, a leading anti-Israel educator-activist.

Some problematic authors for books listed, including those by <u>Naomi Shihab Nye</u>. One of her poems,"Everything in our World" is about occupied "Palestine" since 1948.

National Coalition for Liberated Ethnic Studies

Curriculum, resources and teacher professional development for preK - college.

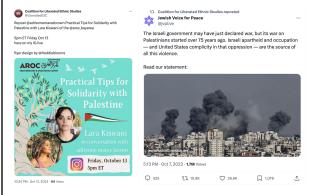
The coalition Includes many regional organizations such as:

LESMCC

AROC

XITO

TeachPalestine



FROM AROC:

The fight against Israeli apartheid is a fight for freedom for us all.

The Arab Resource & Organizing Center (AROC) holds the Israeli regime entirely responsible for all unfolding violence we've witnessed across historic Palestine. In the face of such violence we recommit ourselves to the struggle for freedom and justice in Palestine, in our region, and globally.

Recent events did not occur in a vacuum but as a result of unrelenting colonial aggression. For the last two decades, 2.3 million Palestinians in Gaza have been forced to live in a dense open-air prison, besieged by Israel in violation of international law. Two thirds of the population in Gaza are refugees that were forcibly displaced from other parts of Palestine. Half of the population is unemployed, and the vast majority are impoverished and are denied regular access to food, water, and healthcare by the Israeli siege. Completely surrounded by a militarized barrier, Gazans are denied freedom of movement. In 2018 the United Nations deemed Gaza "unlivable." and since

then Gazans have experienced multiple bombardments by Israel, intensifying an already untenable situation.

The apartheid regime has cut off all food, water, and electricity to Gaza and has engaged in carpet bombing of residential buildings, markets, schools, health facilities, and mosques. Across the occupied West Bank residents fear the worst, with many trapped in their homes as armed Israeli settlers threaten pogroms against Palestinian families, and closed military checkpoints prohibit any freedom of movement. Israeli officials promise to "open the gates of hell," labeling Palestinians "human animals," and the massacres in Gaza have commenced with full support and aid from the US government.

Over the past 75 years, Israeli violence has structured every aspect of Palestinian existence. From systematized land seizures to routine airstrikes, from arbitrary imprisonment to military checkpoints, enforced family separations to targeted killings. Palestinians have been forced to live in a state of death, both slow and sudden. All forms of resistance—peaceful and otherwise—have been brutally repressed by the Israeli regime. Even the most moderate international human rights organizations have

Focused on including Palestine and vilifying the State of Israel in Ethnic Studies curriculum. Repetition of vocabulary and phrases from the Third World Liberation Front revolutionary efforts.

CLES states <u>"Teachers, schools, and school districts</u> understand the importance of authentic Ethnic Studies, and have sufficient support to withstand attacks from Zionist and other right-wing forces and liberalism, including attacks on Critical Race Theory, which is central to Ethnic Studies as a discipline" as one of their "Points of Unity."

An October 13, 2023 event with Lara Kiswani, Executive Director of the Arab Resource and Organizing Center (AROC), included members of the National Coalition for Liberated Ethnic Studies, and claimed all western media is biased and only Al Jazeera (see entry below) should be followed as a news source for understanding the Israel/Hamas conflict.

As a response to the massacre in Israel on October 7, 2023 AROC posted this on its website equating Zionism with fascism:

"The fight against Israeli apartheid is a fight for freedom for us all. The Arab Resource & Organizing Center (AROC) holds the Israeli regime entirely responsible for all unfolding violence we've witnessed across historic Palestine. In the face of such violence we recommit ourselves to the struggle for freedom and justice in Palestine, in our region, and globally. Recent events did not occur in a vacuum but as a result of unrelenting colonial aggression."

labeled Israeli apartheid's structural and military violence as genocidal. Here in the US, Palestinians in diaspora—along with our allies—have been met with hate violence, slander, criminalization, and blacklisting.

Today, Palestinians are entering uncharted territory, facing the most brutal Israeli violence in history. Many have asked why the Palestinian people have not been met with the same solidarity that came so easily to the people of Ukraine. The coming days will require a firm stance against colonialism and a renewed commitment to ending the brutal occupation.

While the US government and so many of its allies clamor to beat the drums of war and annihilation, we remain inspired by the steadfastness of our people and we remain committed to the righteous struggle for freedom, justice, and self-determination.

We call on all to boycott Israel. We call on institutions to divest from Israel. We call on the US government to sanction Israel and end the billions in military aid. We call on our community and allies to take action to stop the ongoing annihilation of Palestinians by demanding an end to the siege on Gaza, an end to the occupation, freedom for political prisoners, and an end to US aid to apartheid Israel.

The current violence could end immediately if those in power took even a small step toward the right side of history.

While we understand the feelings of despair, confusion, and fear that may be gripping our families, friends, and community, we take this moment as an invitation to recommit ourselves to the revolutionary roots of Palestinian liberation—where the struggle to abolish apartheid, Zionism, and fascism in our homeland is one and the same with an international struggle for economic and political democracy, for education and healthcare for all, for right relations to land, for social justice, gender justice and climate justice, shaped in the interests of working people.

We fight for the day all peoples in historic Palestine, and all peoples of the world, can live in dignity and peace.

End the War on Gaza! Free Palestine! Long live international solidarity.

Black Lives Matter @ School

An organization struggling for liberation and racial justice in education for Black youth, educators, and all youth of color.



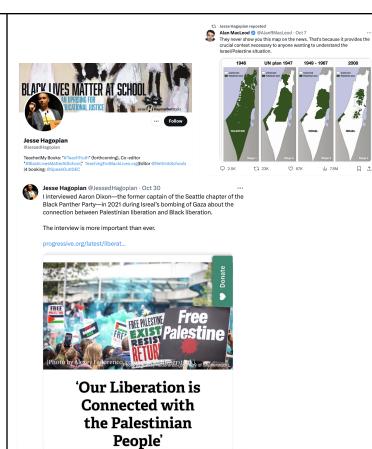
https://www.blacklivesmatteratschool/teachingpalestine

Includes resources such as <u>DecolonizePalestine</u> and article from <u>Rethinking Schools</u>

Problematic curriculum vilifying Israel reported here by Camera Education Institute's senior research analyst

One of the BLM@School leaders is Jesse Hagopian, also editor at Rethinking Schools and on staff at ZinnEducation

Collective of educators, parents, organizers, youth, and community folx who are committed to creating a more just world so that all people may be able to access their full humanity. Works to address racial justice in education by promoting restorative justice



Project.

Visualizing Palestine

Dedicated to using data and research to visually communicate Palestinian experiences to provoke narrative change. VP envisions a liberated future for Palestinians in a world free from oppression.

VP Visualizing Palestine
@visualizingpal

In Gaza, family portraits have become portraits of Israeli Genocide.

#StopTheGenocide - Take action here:bit.ly/take-action-ga... pic.twitter.com/mXyuOL21mx

11/13/23, 11:53 AM

Website used as resource in schools or promoted by Liberated Ethnic Studies and like minded organizations. Presents at education conferences.

The Palestine Academy

Curriculum circulated by HS walkout students (Information from Maryland) Created by students for students. Includes misinformation about Israel and the current situation with Gaza

Al-Jazeera

Biased and problematic reporting about Israel and the Middle East The Palestinians have made it clear today that they would rather fight on their feet for justice and freedom than die on their knees in humiliation. It is high time the Israelis heed the lessons of history.

Marwan Bilitara
Soor political analysis at A 2 200000

2:17 PM - Oct 7, 2023 - 869.4K Views

Often listed as a resource on webinars, websites, social media, and media literacy resources on the Middle East, especially during and after the October 7, 2023 terrorist attack on Israel and war in Gaza.



