

CAMERA Education Institute: Anti-Israel Curricular Materials and Resources

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 shown in the **chart** below 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, issues about 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 or people associated with them 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 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."

The <u>CAMERA Education Institute</u> will continue to add to this document. Please send us any concerning materials you may encounter. If you have questions, please contact <u>schools@camera.org</u>

Chart Key:

Highlight -People across multiple organizations and resources

Highlight -Organizations connected



Resource

Media posts after October 7 2023 attack on Israel

th MECA reposter

Problematic and Biased Teaching Materials

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 (MECA).

Listed in BLM at Schools and Zinn Ed as resource





Resources portray Palestinians as victims without agency and claim Israel is a settler colonist state. Co-Coordinators: Samia Shoman and Jody Sokolower.

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

<u>A Little Piece of Ground</u>: A story of the Second Intifada that demonizes and dehumanizes Israelis.

<u>Determined to Stay</u>: A book based on the author <u>Jody</u> <u>Sokolower's</u> visits to Israel and the West Bank. Sokolower's pre-existing bias is evident throughout the book.

<u>Baba What Does My Name Mean?</u>: Erasing Israel, Hebron and Jerusalem from the map makes for bad geography. Clumsy rhymes make for worse literature.

Rethinking Schools

Calls itself the "country's leading grassroots magazine for social and racial justice in education." Its materials, however, promote a false image of Israel.



Gholdy Muhammad posts Oct 16, 2023



CAMERA has reviewed their site: <u>Rethinking Schools Needs a</u>
<u>Rethink on Israel</u>

Examples of Rethinking Schools' bias:

Jody Sokolower, co-founder of Coalition for Liberated Ethnic Studies vilifies Israel. Sokolower's book is reviewed by CAMERA. Samia Shoman has written several pieces and was a presenter at their Teach Palestine webinar in May 2024. Palestinian educator promotes biased books against Israel:

Books by Naomi Shihab Nye reviewed by CAMERA. Promotes book by Gholdy Muhammad, who posts biased messages about the Oct 7 massacre and Israel commits genocide. Claims injustice and oppression of Palestine.



San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE)

A central hub for ethnic studies curriculum resources. Public Schools and organizations include the link as a resource after the October 7 terror attack.

Sawsan Jaber, leading anti-Israel activist interview included in resources; posted on October 9 2023:



Resources present biased material as shown below: CAMERA <u>reported</u> on PBS lesson plans, documentaries and crash <u>courses</u>. The materials fail to provide accurate facts adopting a Palestinian narrative blaming the Jewish state.

Naomi Shihab Nye presents non-factual history of Israel and grave distortions. For example she dedicated a book to Ahed Tamimi who she celebrates as devoted to justice. Tamimi recently stated "We will slaughter you and you will say that what Hitler did to you was a joke, we will drink your blood and eat your skulls. Come on, we're waiting for you."

Sawsan Jaber promotes anti-Israel literature in K-12 schools and posts social media messages such as: "Israel is involved in oppression all around the world, not just in Palestine."

CAMERA <u>reported</u> Jaber's work promoting indoctrination of students against Israel through literature.

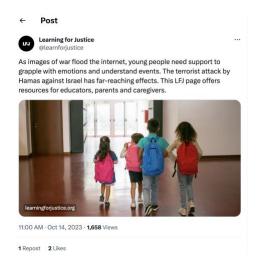
Links to **Rethinking Schools** (see above)



Learning for Justice

(formerly Teaching for Tolerance)

Resources promote a one- sided version of the Israel -Palestinian conflict. Learning For Justice is a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) Social media post direct readers to **SDCOE** (see above).



Author highlighted <u>Amanda Najib Ibrahim</u> is a BDS supporter and anti-Israel activist.

Includes problematic books such as: <u>A Little Piece of Ground</u>: A story of the Second Intifada that demonizes and dehumanizes Israelis.

Links to a webinar with **Gholdy Muhammad**, who <u>posts</u> against Israel's right to defend itself. Links to **SDCOE** (see above)

Multiple biased resources <u>posted</u> until October 12 2023 including **Teach Palestine**, **Rethinking Schools**.

It also included PBS which has been <u>reported</u> using <u>biased</u> resources for lessons on Israel.

Its recent article on understanding and countering antisemitism failed to identify antisemitism in its current forms: denying Jewish right to self determination in their ancestral homeland, denying Israel's right to defend itself or demonization of the state of Israel.

Promotes **BLM at School** Week of Action. Includes an article with **Brian Ford**. Ford is a BLM at School curriculum writer, anti Israel activist and BDS supporter.

SPLC's Executive Director, Margaret Huang, <u>initially</u> claimed Israel targeted civilians in Gaza, including children.



Zinn Education Project

Activist
organization that
promotes Marxist
ideology derived
from Howard Zinn's
" A People's History
of the United
States."

Rethinking Schools and Teaching for Change are co-coordinator organizations for the Zinn Education Project.

- Post



"As the news of violence & loss of Palestinian & Israeli life unfolds, we must be clear: this is the direct result of decades of Israeli occupation, blockade, & apartheid over millions of Palestinians." -- @JvpAction

Take action. Write to Congress. 🛂



1:03 PM · Oct 10, 2023 · 13.7K Views

74 Reposts 10 Quotes 141 Likes 7 Bookmarks

Presents biased viewpoint that vilifies Israel:

Samia Shoman, co-coordinator for **Teach Palestine** (see above), promotes her anti-Israel falsehoods under social justice ideology. Jody Sokolower, co-coordinator for **Teach Palestine**, co-authored an article blaming Israel for unrest in the entire region of the Middle East.

CAMERA <u>reported</u> Shoman and Sokolower's ideology in Liberated Ethnic Studies.

BLM@School co-founder Jesse Hagopian is staff member at Zinn Education and Rethinking Schools
Naomi Shihab Nye reviewed by CAMERA.

Includes the following:

<u>Visualizing Palestine</u> (see below) publishes biased infographics against Israel.

Institute for <u>Middle East Understanding</u> opposes the <u>IHRA</u> definition of antisemitism and publishes biased pieces on Israel.

Al Jazzera, a biased media outlet, includes <u>fraudulent</u> photos to defame Israel in its reports.



Black Lives Matter at School

Organization promotes false connections between racial issues in America and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Member of **CLES**



Roger Waters 5 10/30/23 FOR THE LOVE OF GOD! STOP
KILLING THE
CHILDREN!



Jesse Hagopian @JessedHagopian - Oct 30
Iinterviewed Aaron Dixon—the former captain of the Seattle chaj Black Panther Party—in 2021 during Isreal's bombing of Gaza abc connection between Palesthinal liberation and Black liberation.

The interview is more important than ever





'Our Liberation is Connected with the Palestinian People' Problematic links and curriculum vilifying Israel <u>reported</u> by CAMERA senior research analyst.

Links to **Rethinking Schools** (see above)

BLM@School leader Jesse Hagopian, is editor at Rethinking Schools (see above) and staff member at Zinn Education Project (see above).

Brian Ford is a member of the BLM at Schools <u>curriculum</u> team

Abolitionist Teaching Network (ATN)

Its mission is to develop and support those in the struggle for education liberation

Member of **CLES**





Bettina Love is co-founder and Board of Directors Chair of ATN.

Promoted Palestine day of Action in NYC. Published a Palestine Tool Kit to be used in schools after October 7.

Falsely claims Israeli is committing genocide in Gaza and calls to end US support for Israel.

Published and promoted an ATN Resources for Educators to Support a Free Palestine.

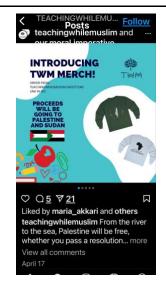


Teaching While Muslim

(TWM)

Working to actively include social justice, anti-racist and anti-Islamophobic curricula into schools Also to form a network of muslim educators.





Includes links to Teach Palestine, listing books only presenting Palestinian narratives.

Describes lessons offered as teaching about the "past and current genocide" of Palestinians. The lessons focus on multiple subject matters including math, social studies and english language arts.

Antisemitic resources <u>reported</u> being used in <u>several</u> areas of the country.

Classroom materials claim "Palestine" is occupied by Israel and mentions resistance constantly denying the Jewish their indigeneity to the land.

It links to resources from Decolonize Palestine, a project claiming Israel is a settler colonialist state oppressing the Palestinians.

Social Justice Books

Project of **Teaching for Change** (see above) with books presenting only the Palestinian narrative.



CAMERA reviews problematic books.

Includes <u>Ida in the Middle</u> by <u>Nora Lester Murad</u> who captured herself on social media tearing down Israeli hostages posters. Her book targets Middle School students with indoctrination against the Jewish State.



National Coalition for Liberated Ethnic Studies (CLES)

Anti-Israel curriculum, activism, resources and teacher professional development for preK - college. Some organizations that are part of the coalition:

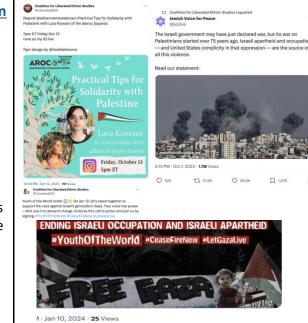
Black Lives Matter @ School

Teach Palestine

AROC

Abolitionist Teaching

Network



Focused on including Palestine and vilifying the State of Israel in Ethnic Studies curriculum.

CLES exposed in <u>report</u> by CAMERA for her antisemitic Israel vilification.

CLES member organization AROC incited high school students for walkouts and anti-Israel chants

Jody Sokjolower is a co- founder of CLES. Samia Shoman and Jesse Hagopian, Brian Ford, Nora Lester Murad also CLES member-activists. (All mentioned above in **Teach Palestine**, **Rethinking Schools** and **BLM@School**).

As a response to the massacre in Israel on October 7, 2023 AROC posted antisemitic remarks violating IHRA definition of antisemitism by 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."

Teaching for Change

Produces resources and lessons that promote biased materials against Israel.



Its *Challenge Islamophobia Project* includes biased information on American Jewish Organizations.

Includes articles by activists that advance Israel vilification and antisemitism: <u>Hatem Bazian</u>, co-founder of SJP, radical anti-Israel organization <u>promoting</u> antisemitism on college campuses.

<u>Steven Salaita</u>, a BDS proponent who has expressed demeaning and hateful messages about Israel.



Teach Mideast

An anti-Israel educational project of the Middle East Policy Forum.



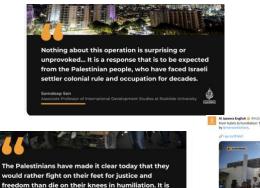
The site recommends many problematic and biased resources.

Includes articles by <u>Al-Jazeera</u>, an organization exposed for antisemitism among its staff members. (see below)
Resources by <u>Jewish Voice for Peace</u> whose members have expressed explicit support for Hamas.

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.

Al-Jazeera

Qatar funded anti-Israel news outlet



<u>Exposed</u> for promoting disinformation about Israel and hatred for the Jewish state.

2:17 PM · Oct 7, 2023 · 869.4K Views

high time the Israelis heed the lessons of history.



Brown Choices Curriculum

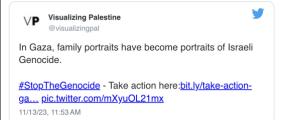
High School history curriculum from Brown University Brown University's
Choices Curriculum:
Platform for an
Anti-Zionist Narrative

CAMERA's <u>report</u> of the Choices program's curriculum pertaining to Zionism, Israel and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. One-pager on Brown Choices curriculum program.

Choices curriculum is replete with historical revisionism and anti-Zionist tropes, white washes Palestinian aggression and terrorism, erases Hamas' stated goals and portrays the existence of the Jewish state as illegitimate.

Visualizing Palestine

Dedicated to using data and graphics to present anti-Israel falsehoods.



<u>Exposed</u> for its biased infographics such as claiming Israel commits genocide.

Included in resources from **Zinn Education Project**

Haymarket Books

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

Bettina Love and Gholdy Muhammad presented together for Haymarket Books

Abolition and the Liberation of Palestine





Presents webinars and books by activists who vilify Israel:

Anti- Zionist Angela Davis

Parceo's Nina Mehta

Radical antisemitic organization <u>Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP)</u>

Promoted free books on Palestine after Oct 7, 2023.



The Palestine Academy

Anti-Israel biased curriculum circulated by high school student walkout organizers.



Created by students for students. Includes misinformation about Israel and the current situation with Gaza.