

Julie Dachtler

From: Devi Eden <devseden@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 20, 2024 12:37 PM
To: Mary Vixie Sandy; Lucas Frerichs; Jim Provenza; Oscar Villegas; Angel Barajas
Cc: Clerkoftheboard
Subject: PLEASE DO NOT CONSIDER DRAFTING A RESOLUTION Re Israel & Gaza

Dear Yolo County Board of Supervisors

I am writing to urge you to ***not schedule*** a draft resolution pertaining to the conflict in Israel/Gaza.

I understand that a group of anti-Semitic and anti-Israel activists are pressuring the County Board of Supervisors to draft a cease-fire resolution regarding the ongoing war against terrorism in Israel and Gaza. This same group recently convinced the Davis City Council to adopt a [resolution](#) calling for an immediate ceasefire. This resolution is very problematic, and full of misinformation. If put into actual practice it would result in the unnecessary deaths of many more thousands of Israelis and Gazans, both military and civilian, which appears to be what this group of "activists" would like to see.

Please consider the following:

- o Is it appropriate or useful for a local government entity such as the Board of Supervisors to spend your valuable time and energy weighing in on complex international geopolitical issues, that 'experts' spend their entire careers following, learning, and trying to understand? This exercise (in futility) would only detract from your valuable time and energies that I believe would be better spent addressing important issues here in Yolo County. Your involvement in drafting such a resolution would likely result in a further divided community, and more empowered (and unjustified) antisemitic feelings and activities targeting our Jewish community here in Yolo County.
- o Please continue to focus your time and expertise on addressing the many serious issues facing Yolo County, including homelessness, safe and affordable housing, health and safety, rural infrastructure, as well as the rising antisemitism in Yolo County, which has increased exponentially around the world since Oct. 7. We do not want this reflected in our own community.
- o The loss of life in the that region is horrible and tragic, but there are ongoing conflicts with loss of life raging in Ukraine/Russia, China/Uygur, Sudan/their many ethnic minorities, between the Palestinian Christians and Palestinian Muslims, between the many Palestinian factions in Lebanon, Syria, Gaza, Egypt, Jordan, Yemen, Qatar, and others. And then there is human trafficking out of Russia and Asian countries, gun and arms trafficking all over the world, drug trafficking, and many other issues around the world that 'we' could get involved with. This hyper-compulsive focus on the only (and very tiny) Jewish country, which is surrounded by 22 Arab countries, mostly hostile, is imbalanced, and tainted with a long tradition of (subconscious?) antisemitism. Israel is a thriving and raucous democracy, with a strongly functioning supreme court, that will investigate its own issues related to the Geneva Conventions after the hostages are recovered and returned. Israel has a proven track record of upholding the Geneva Conventions of warfare to a greater extent than even the U.S.
- o Finally, a resolution, if it is really focusing on humanitarian law and crimes against humanity, (which Hamas has stated they are NOT bound to follow), would first a foremost call for the IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF ALL HOSTAGES, many of whom are American!!! This war started in the aftermath of the horrible brutal murder of thousands of innocent Israeli, American, and other civilians - in their homes, asleep in their beds, at a concert in the desert, out walking their dogs, followed by the kidnapping of hundreds who are, if they are still alive, somewhere underneath Gaza in the hundreds of miles of tunnels that Hamas built using international

donations that were supposed to better the lives of ordinary Gazans. An honest and well-thought-out resolution would instead address Hamas' crimes against their own people. Hamas has already stated that if a cease-fire occurred with Israel, they would re-arm, would carry out hundreds more Oct. 7 attacks on Israeli civilians, and would continue to subjugate their own (Palestinian) civilian population keeping them impoverished, illiterate, and living in constant fear.

Please do not invite this hatred and ugliness into our County Chambers by scheduling a hearing that would provide a microphone to hear more of the propaganda, misinformation, antisemitic tropes and 'blood libels' that we heard in the City of Davis City Council Chambers. It is very scary and disturbing for people like me. My own mother and grandparents survived the Holocaust, and Israel faced another on October 7.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Devorah Eden
Davis resident since 1987

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