

## Julie Dachtler

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**From:** Nitzan Shabek <nshabek@ucdavis.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 19, 2024 11:15 AM  
**To:** Oscar Villegas; Mary Vixie Sandy; Jim Provenza; Angel Barajas; Lucas Frerichs  
**Cc:** Clerkoftheboard  
**Subject:** Concerns Regarding Discussion on Ceasefire Resolution in Gaza by Yolo County Board

**Importance:** High

Dear Yolo County Board of Supervisors,

I have recently become aware of the upcoming consideration and discussion on a ceasefire resolution in Gaza by our county board of supervisors. I want to express my viewpoint without delving into the complexities of whether the ceasefire resolution is right or wrong in the context of a clearly justified war initiated by a massive terror group that continues to hold elderly and children as hostages.

I believe that discussing matters related to foreign affairs, particularly those occurring thousands of miles away, is not pertinent to our county's responsibilities. Similar to how I would not expect discussions on a ceasefire in Russia-Ukraine war, or Sudan, where 2 million Muslims are displaced and massacred, or the half a million Muslims who were victims of Assad's regime in Syria. Addressing global issues far beyond our borders seems impractical and a misuse of our county's resources and time.

The consideration of a ceasefire in the Middle East is clearly a performative act that does not benefit our residents and will only contribute to increased volatility, toxicity, and division among our local communities. The selective attention to certain international conflicts, such as Israel's justified war, while remaining silent on other global matters, carries an inevitable and regrettable anti-Semitic undertone.

Many city councils and counties across the United States have chosen not to endorse hate speeches in their chambers, and those who have done so now face significant negative publicity. I believe it is in the best interest of our county to avoid unnecessary involvement in complex and unrelated matters that will have no meaningful impact on a conflict occurring in a different continent.

**I urge you to refocus our efforts on improving the well-being of our community and refrain from engaging in performative acts that will only serve to amplify divisions.**

Sincerely,

Prof. Nitzan Shabek

*(American, Jewish, Israeli, and resident of Davis - Yolo County)*

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