

Colleagues,

First, please be sure to read the attached letter from Congressman Juan Vargas, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives and Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Also, former Assemblyman Carl DeMaio has also included a letter. I think you will be VERY interested to read their thoughts on Miko Peled.

As I have argued, if the Israeli-Palestinian issue is one the college wishes to explore, I STRONGLY feel it needs to be done in a balanced, academic manner. Miko Peled, by his own proud admission, does not have a balanced OR academic perspective on this issue. In Peled's words at one of his talks:

"If anybody here came hoping to hear a balanced presentation then they're going to be sorely disappointed. I don't believe that a balanced presentation on this topic is possible. There is no balance on this issue. If anybody claims their presentation is balanced, they're either misleading themselves or they're misleading their audience."

Here is why I and many others oppose Peled's appearance at MSJC:

- Miko Peled perpetuates lies and misconceptions that can, and most likely WILL, incite hate and prejudice.
- Miko Peled is a representative of the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement (BDS). BDS is a bigoted global propaganda campaign against Israel. It is the newest weapon in the ongoing effort to eliminate Israel as the democratic state of the Jewish people. BDS brands itself as a progressive human rights movement, but nothing could be further from the truth. BDS an extremist agenda which is anti-peace, anti-justice, and anti-human rights. See the attached documents on BDS for more on this issue.
- Peled's false claims include: Israel is an apartheid state; Israel is the aggressor; Israel is not a democracy; Israel is an occupying and/or colonial power oppressing innocent Palestinians, and; there is racial segregation in Israeli institutions. See the attached documents to see scholarly resources debunking these myths.
- Peled all but ignores the role of Hamas in the oppression of the Palestinian people. Israel endured 1,000s of rockets and tens of thousands of terrorist attacks since 2000. See the attached documents "Palestinian Terrorism" and "Hamas War Crimes" for more on this. How can this information NOT be included on ANY narrative on this issue?
- Peled leads his audiences to believe that the Palestinians want peace with Israelis ... NOTHING could be further from the truth. He argues bringing down "the Wall" would bring peace. At this point bringing down Israel's Security Barrier would only bring more violence to Israel as the terrorists would once again have a clear shot at school buses and Israeli civilians. See the attached document "Security Barrier" for more on this issue.

- Miko Peled is NOT a “peace activist”:

Last June, three Israeli teenagers were kidnapped, tortured, brutally murdered, and their dead bodies left to rot in the sun for weeks until they were found. These three young men were high school Rabbinical students who had dedicated their young lives to serve God. Even Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas condemned the kidnappings, for which Hamas has proudly taken credit.



Miko Peled believes those boys got what they had coming to them. Miko Peled believes it was Israel’s fault the teens were murdered. In fact, Peled believes Israelis *deserve* to be targets of terrorist acts and they should expect it. In an interview on *Russia Today* television, Peled reveals his belief that these heinous were not lamentable. Peled argues terrorist acts against Israel is her fault for creating an atmosphere where such consequences should be expected. In this interview, Peled said that for Benjamin Netanyahu to condemn terrorism is “cynical” and imply that perhaps we shouldn’t be saddened despite the young age of the victims when he alleged “these three young men, as we know, were students at a Yeshiva University, a yeshiva high school. This is the breeding ground for the worst kind of fanatic terrorists ... “. (Yeshiva is where young men go to become Rabbis.) Please read more about this and more in this newspaper article from [examiner.com](http://www.examiner.com), I’m sure you will find it FAIR and enlightening:

<http://www.examiner.com/article/miko-peled-a-peace-activist-s-war-on-intellectual-honesty>

I have put together a FAQ sheet (attached) based on the questions I've received from many of you wanting to more fully understand the very complex and highly controversial issue of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. I am happy to help you find other resources on the issue if you're interested.

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