

# LA Jews for Peace

[www.LAJewsforPeace.org](http://www.LAJewsforPeace.org); [info@LAJewsforPeace.org](mailto:info@LAJewsforPeace.org); 213-405-1494  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LAJP.org>; Twitter: @LAJews4Peace  
February 26, 2015

Diversity Committee, Mt. San Jacinto College  
c/o Professor Shahla Razavi

LA Jews for Peace ([www.LAJewsforPeace.org](http://www.LAJewsforPeace.org)) is a group of Jewish and non-Jewish Angelenos committed to peace in the greater Middle East through an end of the Israeli occupation (of the West Bank including East Jerusalem, Gaza Strip, and Golan Heights), a negotiated agreement that assures Palestinians national, civil, and human rights equivalent to those of Jewish Israelis, and opposition to United States government policies of militarism and imperialism based on American exceptionalism.

I write in support of Miko Peled's invitation to speak at Mt. San Jacinto College. Miko and LA Jews for Peace have worked together several times since Peled's book "The General's Son, Journey of an Israeli in Palestine" was published in 2012. From our experience I can assure you that Peled represents a main-line viewpoint within the Palestinian Solidarity Community, although it is distinct from the peace vision of LA Jews for Peace.

We understand that there are objections on campus to Peled that consist of personal attacks. We further understand that there is an effort to cancel Peled's talk. That reaction to Peled's talk is distressful, but not unexpected.

Pro Israel activists typically resort to personal attacks in attempts to shut off any discussion of the Israel-Palestine situation. That is their only option, because Israel's actions of maintaining a continuing occupation and building more and more illegal settlements on Palestinian land is wrong. In fact it is a war crime as defined in chapter 49 of the fourth Geneva Convention.

If the facts of Israel-Palestine are discussed, it shows Israel to be undemocratic and criminal. So the pro-Israel activists attempt to stop discussion.

I described this phenomenon with Dick Platkin in an article published on August 26, 2013 in Mondoweiss.net titled "The new anti-Semitism, and the campaign to silence American critics of Israel" (<http://mondoweiss.net/2013/08/the-new-anti-semitism-and-the-campaign-to-silence>). Dick and/or myself will be delighted to appear at Mt. San Jacinto to explain the dynamics of the attempt to silence Miko Peled, and why those anti-democratic efforts should be resisted.

Please call or email if you have further questions.

Jeff Warner  
Action Coordinator, LA Jews for Peace