

Dear Sir Madam,

I am an honorary academic at Melbourne University. Jewish students on our campus have been doxxed, targeted, excluded and physically attacked. They have been intimidated and abused by illegal encampments against which no action was taken. Propaganda reminiscent of the Nazi era has been prominently displayed and posters of Israeli hostages ripped down and vandalised with antisemitic graffiti. The word Zionist has been vilified. Jewish academic speakers have been barricaded and abused and invited speakers cancelled because of their Jewish religion and Israeli nationality. Students and staff at graduation ceremonies have been allowed to wear Keffiyehs, to Jewish students, a symbol of antisemitic terrorism made famous in that context by Yasser Arafat, subsequently symbolic of intifada and terrorist murder of the Jews.

Hamas and Hezbollah flags have flown on campus and Hamas style headbands and terrorist costumes and masks have been worn by protesters.

Chants calling for the total genocide, ethnic cleansing and annihilation of Jews and Israel (globalise the intifada, from the river to the sea, khaibar Al Ja hud in Arabic which recalls a massacre of Jews by the prophet Mohammad) have been tolerated on campus. Jews have been subjected to racist abuse that would never be tolerated if directed at any other minority in today's society.

Jews have also been falsely accused of every evil de jour in the leftist and communist playbook. Jews as colonisers. Jews as apartheid. Jews as terrorists. Jews as capitalism. Jews as genocidal. Jews = insert any perceived negative phrase. This is the placard strategy. We have seen manipulative inversion of the horrors of the Holocaust inflicted on the Jewish people, falsely accusing Jews of genocide in an effort to minimise Jewish suffering and erase Jewish history. It is used to justify and even elevate to "righteousness" the ancient scourge of Jew hatred. Often the word Jew is replaced with "Zionist" to allow woke antisemites a smoke screen of deniability of racism while persecuting Jewish people. Jews understand Zionist means Jew as the vast majority of Jewish people are Zionist. Zionism is belief in Israel as the Jewish homeland of thousands of years and of Israel's right to exist as a state in modern times. To vilify Israel's right to exist is to vilify the Jewish nation, people and religion. None of this is to say that political criticism of Israel's politicians or actions should be censored. However clear double standards, demonisation and delegitimisation for Israel alone are hallmarks of antisemitism and are rife on campus.

Jews have had a short breather in the second half of the 20th and beginning of the 21st century where fewer people have called for our total annihilation. Australia has been a safe haven for people like my grandparents whose whole families were murdered in the Holocaust and who fled here for protection, contributed greatly to our society and who became and raised proud Australians.

However, since the pogrom on October 7th, wholesale slaughter, rape, murder and kidnapping of Jewish people in Israel by a Palestinian terror government's unprovoked invasion and Israel's defensive response, antiJewish racism on campuses has been tolerated as a protest cause de Jour, in conflict with every Australian value. Funding for this movement is sinister and should be investigated as in the USA, foreign bad actors are implicated.

This deserves a separate investigation, especially as to why Jews do not enjoy protection and enactment of existing Australian state and federal anti discrimination laws to protect Jewish Australians in this sea of hatred that has invaded our country.

Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone