

BAY AREA WOMEN IN BLACK

Israel Gets Construction, Gaza Gets Destruction and we Get the Bill!



ISRAEL GETS THE CONSTRUCTION:

Israel continues to build houses in settlements on Palestinian land. All of them are illegal under international law. Many of these "settlements" are large suburban towns. They are built on Palestinian land in the West Bank. Israel also continues construction in Palestinian East Jerusalem. Israel defies international law and UN resolutions. And it defies President Obama's call for a "freeze" on settlement expansion.

GAZA GETS DESTRUCTION:

The million and a half Palestinians in Gaza suffer an ongoing humanitarian crisis. While the settlements in the West Bank expand, the Israeli government refuses to allow cement or glass into Gaza. Without these building supplies the 5,000+ homes Israel destroyed during its attack on Gaza cannot be rebuilt. The people of Gaza are deprived of adequate food and health care. Israel deprives them of their ability to provide for themselves and denies them the aid sent by the international community. Malnutrition increases. Israel denies freedom of movement in and out of Gaza, forcefully imprisoning the population.

MOTOROLA AND BOEING GET THE BIG BUCKS:

Giant U.S. corporations like Boeing and Motorola continue to make huge profits by selling Israel planes, surveillance equipment, and other military supplies. With this equipment, Israel maintains military control over the Palestinian population and keeps them from reclaiming their confiscated land.



WE PAY FOR THE KILLING:

We pay for the bullying. We pay for policies that make everyone less safe. U.S. taxpayers pay at least seven million dollars in military aid to Israel every day. Defenders of Israel's military policies claim that this aid helps maintain Israel's "security." But military force does not make anyone secure. In fact, Israel's policies obstruct the "peace process". Security for Palestinians and Israelis requires an end to the Israeli occupation, an end to violence, and honest negotiations toward a just peace.

Tell Obama to hold firm:

Stop "settlement" expansion! Support the Goldstone report!

No to the Siege in Gaza! No to Israel illegally using U.S. military aid against civilians!

White House: 202-456-1111 or www.whitehouse.gov

www.bayareawomeninblack.org

BAY AREA WOMEN IN BLACK

BAY AREA WOMEN IN BLACK asks you to take a moment from "business as usual" to consider places in the world where suffering and fear, rather than the joy of the holidays, dominate the lives of mothers, children and families.

We advocate for thoughtful definitions of moral values in American society, especially today on the busiest shopping day of the year.

- **It is a moral value** to end the Israeli occupation of Palestinian resources and land.
- **It is a moral value** to protest the U.S. war in Iraq, which has inflamed the already volatile situation in the Middle East.
- **It is a moral value** to work together to end poverty, provide healthcare and quality education for all people and to provide timely emergency services to all victims of major disasters.
- **It is a moral value** to redefine a foreign policy for all Americans who support freedom, justice and social policies supportive of family life – all our families, in all their forms.

BAY AREA WOMEN IN BLACK, a group of Jewish feminists and allies, stands in solidarity with Israeli Women in Black who have held vigils weekly since 1988 to protest the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and East Jerusalem. We stand in solidarity with our Palestinian sisters who are mourning the loss of their loved ones, their homes, and their basic means of survival. We grieve the Israeli and Palestinian lives that have been lost.

We urge the Bush administration to engage the United Nations as a peacekeeping presence in Iraq, in Israel/Palestine and wherever nation-states are involved in religious, political, tribal or historic conflict.

BAY AREA WOMEN IN BLACK wears black as a symbol of sorrow for all victims of war and as a way to join in spirit with the more than 150 other Women in Black groups around the world who protest against militarism, violence, oppression, anti-Semitism, and racism, wherever it occurs.

We oppose unquestioned patriotic, militaristic, and fundamentalist leadership in all countries around the globe, including our own, and are committed to nonviolent resistance against tyranny. We believe all people must have the right to security, home, education and freedom.

BAY AREA WOMEN IN BLACK creates public rituals that express the desire for a world free of war and violence. We also hold silent vigils through city streets, creating a visible presence as women in protest and mourning for all the lives that have been lost in religious, political and nationalistic struggles around the world.

*To join our work, please contact us through our website
Or write to us at PO Box 8003, Berkeley, CA 94707*

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